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INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY

Book Production and Distribution Journal

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Advertising Director
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INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY
is published monthly by Sterling Publishers Pvt Ltd., L-10, Green Park Extension, New Delhi 110016.

078186

CONTENTS

INTER-LIBRARY RESOURCES CENTRE
A Significant Indian-Experiment
—*S.P. Agrawal* 5

BOOKS AS OBJECTS OF BEAUTY
—*R.K. Das Gupta* 9

DEDICATING A BOOK IS LIKE MAKING LOVE IN PUBLIC
—*Edwin McDowell* 15

A ROMANTIC PROGRESSIVE PUNJABI POET
—*S.N. Sewak* 19

FEDERATION NEWS 20

NEWS & EVENTS 21

MONTHLY LISTING 23

BOOK REVIEWS 28

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No.5, Work Building
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Mr Anand Kumria
Independent Publishing Co. Ltd.
38 Kennington Lane
London SE11 4LS
Tel: (01) 735 2101

Subscription Rates

	Indian	*Foreign*	
	Rs	$	£
One Year	50.00	12.50	7.00
Two Years	80.00	20.00	10.00
Three Years	120.00	30.00	15.00

Discounts

Printed and published by Shri O.P. Ghai at Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., Green Park Ext.,

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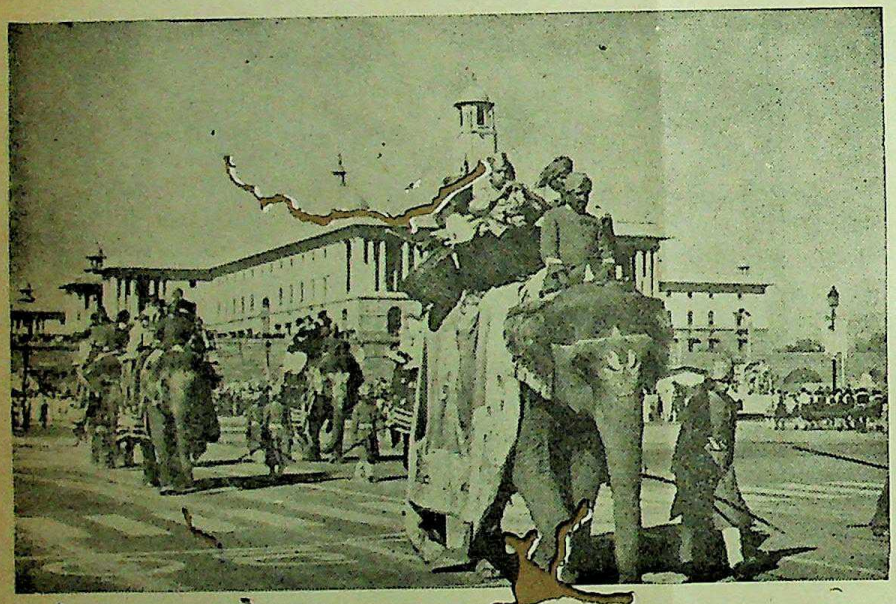

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Inter-Library Resources Centre: A Significant Indian Experiment

S. P. AGRAWAL*

Although the tradition of teaching and research in social science in India is of recent origin, the concern over the outcome of rapid changes and the response of the Indian academic community to developments abroad have contributed to the speedy growth of social sciences in the country. In the face of ever-burgeoning materials, published and otherwise, it is almost impossible for a single library to cope with all the needs of its users.

To keep pace with the information explosion, various methods have been suggested or practised the world over. These include a structured pattern of libraries leading to the development of repositories and resource sharing in India, we have embarked on a new experiment, the Inter-Library Resources Centre, to collect reading matter and research tools for scholars, combining the sailent features of a repository and resource sharing in the process.

The repository concept is generally equated with 'the storage, preservation and continued availability of low-use material discarded by libraries through lack of space'. Few libraries play the role of a repository exclusively; many of them continue, in themselves, the functions of a repository as well as the "usual" library.

Repositories are precluded from taking an active part in national interlending or acquisition systems because of a lack of ability or willingness to transfer library stock, paucity of suitable buildings and shortage of trained manpower, and also because of "user perceptions of their need for on-site access".

In the absence of clear-cut legislative guidelines, there are sharp differences of opinion on what stock should be relegated to a repository, and the decisions have to be left to the whims of the relegating library, which is frequently weak in methods of transfer and in maintaining the catalogue and other records.

Repositories, it has been emphasized, are not glamorous. 'They do not have the immediacy of on-line retrieval, the excitement of new techniques, even the human satisfaction of community information services. And yet, they are fundamental to all library and information activities, and it is short-sighted to concentrate on the techniques of information exploitation if the information itself is being slowly but inexorably lost'.

The objectives of 'resources sharing, on the other hand, can be achieved through various organizational arrangements called the consortium, the network or the cooperative. Generally, the term, 'resource' signifies a thing, person or action, which is handy in times of need. 'Resource Sharing' involves reciprocity, "a partnership in which each member has something useful to contribute to others and which each is willing and able to make available when needed. Resource sharing denotes a mode of operation whereby library functions are shared in common by a number of libraries."

The justification of resource-sharing, particularly in India, is apparent from the fact that libraries organizing research collections have to spend a lion's share of their acquisition budgets in purchasing materials that are seldom, if ever, used. The libraries, in this context, should strive more and more to realise 'use' as well as 'non-use' in terms of the acquisition budgets earmarked for each category. And this brings them logically to the resource sharing efforts and to the experiment, which has every possibility of being a great success, of the Inter-Library Resources Centre.

A traditional and tested method to this end is the inter-library loan system, but it has certain limitations. It is not difficult to procure or obtain on loan a few volumes under the system. When the number of these transactions is small and not on daily

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occurrence, the inter-library loan system is both cheap and quick. But if the transactions are more frequent, they tend to be more complex and also costlier. Different libraries have different rules on loaning their material. Some, for example, do not send out periodicals as a matter of rule, while some others stipulate that the loaned material must be used on the premises of the borrowing library. The security and care of the loan material poses delicate issues, which are sometimes insoluble.

Another method, which is of far-reaching significance in terms of sharing resources among several libraries, is to establish a Centre, where different libraries could deposit such research material as are not used frequently by them, and the Centre, in its turn, would be responsible for organizing the materials and making them available to all visiting scholars. Obviously, the second alternative would be a great service to research workers. If the service is properly organized, researchers may not be required to visit different libraries for research material concentrated at the Centre in a substantially large quantity.

A Centre of this kind has added advantages, some of which are :

1) The depositing libraries will have increased space on their shelves after their less-used volumes are removed to the Centre. They can fill up the vacuum with more recent books needed by their regular users;

2) The authorities of the depositing libraries will also have the satisfaction that the research material acquired by them painstakingly over several years will now be used [illegible] and more frequently by a large number [illegible] as well as out-station social scientists;

3) The care and preservation of their materials ensured, the depositing libraries will have their budget allocations used for others purposes;

4) Any lacunas in the collections from the depositing libraries will be filled up by the materials deposited by other libraries at the Centre. This is particularly true of the gaps in the back files of periodicals which are very expensive to fill; and

5) A spirit of active and meaningful cooperation will be generated among the libraries, which will vie with one another to extend their cooperation to other spheres, and all this will lead to a better service to their users. These libraries could, in the circumstances, share acquisition programmes to step up specialization, cataloging, programming to secure consistency and uniformity, and micro-filming programmes.

The Centre may also undertake to establish and maintain a Union Catalogue of foreign monographs currently acquired by all or selected depositing libraries if each of them could send a card to the Centre for every new foreign monograph acquired by them. A Union Catalogue of this type will supplement the Union Catalogue of Social Sciences Serials, and will be yet another information tool on the growing resources for social science research in the libraries in Delhi.

The establishment of the Centre will help evolve a well-coordinated system, under which the unit libraries in Delhi will overcome local difficulties of staff, space and budget. The capital has perhaps the largest cluster of libraries in India, and they may be broadly divided into four groups:

i) Academic libraries which include the libraries of the universities and colleges. These are naturally multifocal, i.e. they have acquired and preserved over many years, printed materials in the form of books, periodicals and pamphlets in various disciplines of knowledge including social sciences for the needs of their students and faculties.

ii) The Government of India libraries which are more restricted in their scope. Each of them has acquired and preserved, for several years, printed materials in the form of books, periodicals, pamphlet and also Government publications on only such subjects as are within the scope of activities of its parent body which is either the Ministry, its Department or attached or subordinate office. Since the total Governmental activities are comprehensive of all phases of social life, almost all Government of India libraries are primarily resource bases for social research.

iii) The libraries of the Autonomous Institutions are even more specialized. Each of these institution has very specific activities and most of them are devoted to study and research in particular branches of social sciences, e.g. the Indian Institute of Public Administration, the Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis, the Institute of Foreign Trade, the Institute of Manpower Research, the Indian Law Institute, and so on.

iv) Public libraries are established to cater to the needs of general public. Even so, these libraries often also develop special collections and/or special activities with the changing time, e.g. Delhi Public Library, Delhi.

The total number of libraries of all these categories in Delhi would be about 150. Many of them were established long before Independence although quite a few have come into

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existence only after 1947. As reservoirs of research material, about half of these libraries are known to have large collection of social science material. A rough estimate is that they would have between them, over two million volumes and their total annual intake by purchase, gift and exchange would exceed 100,000 titles. There are about 400 library trained personnel engaged in these libraries and annual maintenance cost including staff salary, book budgets and other services would be close to Rs. 20.00 million. Delhi thus has a vast resource base for research in social sciences and it is expanding year after year by the establishment of new institutions and by additional funds becoming available.

An inevitable feature of such a situation is that a good deal of resource material has become duplicated, some of it is available at only a few places and some needed material is perhaps nowhere available among the libraries in the city. None of these libraries has become, or will ever become, self-sufficient for its actual or potential needs. Moreover, most of these libraries have grown and are growing beyond their available space capacity. In consequence, the older material which is ordinarily less frequently used gets crowded on shelves in two or three rows and also gets relatively less attended to as far as its maintenance is concerned. As a result, even the material which was once known to be available is not often located quickly for subsequent use. Yet another disadvantage to the researcher in social sciences is that he has to go from one library to another in search of his material and only in anticipation that the material required by him may become available to him on time in his pursuit of several libraries. In this, he faces some odd situations. Many of the Government libraries require special passes to visit them. There are not always good reading facilities provided in some libraries. Most libraries function during normal office hours only and the paucity of staff and space in many of these libraries render the use of the material somewhat difficult for a research worker visiting Delhi for a short period.

The ICSSR with its primary objective to promote research in social sciences since its inception in 1969 took note of this situation and initiated several programmes, some time bound and some continuing, but all aimed at facilitating social science research. One such important programme has been the compilation of union catalogue of social science periodicals and serials. The union catalogue enables a person to locate social sciences serials and periodicals available in important libraries of India. On the completion of the first phase of Union Catalogue Project, the compilation of a Retrospective Index of Indian Social Science Periodicals was taken up.

In 1973, ICSSR jointly with the Jawaharlal Nehru University, established Inter-library Resources Centre. For this purpose, the University made available library-wing of its building at 35 Ferozshah Road, the facilities of its hostel nearby and adequate accommodation on its new campus. The main office of the ILRC at 35 Ferozshah Road which is very centrally located as far as the libraries having large collection of social science research material are concerned and also for use by the general public. To begin with, the Council invited a meeting of the librarians of the important libraries in Delhi and requested them to deposit only their back files of Social Science Periodicals which are not too often in use in their libraries.

The response was very good. The Council, thereafter made formal arrangements to accept the deposits of back files of Social Science Periodicals, Newspapers and Government Documents. Under this scheme local libraries—a dozen of them initially deposited their non-current, infrequently used material but important for research with ILRC. The idea has caught on, and the number of participating libraries including SSDC has risen to 38. The deposits are accepted on condition that the proprietary right of each depositing library in respect of its material will be maintained and the material will be well preserved and made available for consultation on the premises by anybody. The depositing libraries can withdraw their deposits temporarily or permanently if they so desire. They may also gift the material to the ILRC at their will. Several libraries have already gifted some material. The material is processed in a simple manner to enable its quick location for use. The depository collection has already begun to attract visitors wishing to use this material because the back files of journals, research reports and government documents are now available for consultation under one roof.

In setting up the Inter-Library Resources Centre, the Council's objective has been not simply of accumulating social science research material at one place, but to provide a variety of services to the community of social scientists among which the following may be mentioned:

i) To the social scientists who are stationed in Delhi, the ILRC is within easy reach. At present ILRC remains open on all days of the year except 26th Jan. 15th August and 2nd October, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Monday through Friday; 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on Saturday, Sunday and gazetted holidays. In course of time, the working hours of the ILRC would be extended to facilitate its use for longer hours on working days as well as on Sundays and other holidays.

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ii) For persons stationed elsewhere in India, the Council has introduced a scheme of study grants which provides for two-way travel and a modest allowance per day for lodging and boarding. Efforts are made to provide accommodation in the hostel nearby.

iii) ILRC provides reprographic service so that readable photo-copies of required articles from periodicals or of reasonable extracts from other documents in the Centre are supplied on a cost-basis to local as well as outside scholars. The charges at present are Rs. 0.60 for the first exposure and Rs. 0.15 for additional copies.

iv) ILRC also provides short bibliographies on specific subjects on demand, tailored to the needs of the research scholar. There is a nominal charge of Rs. 5/- for 100 entries or in part thereof.

v) For Inter-library loan services, the Centre also maintains a carrier service so that the Periodicals volumes or Documents which are not available in the Centre but are available in some library in Delhi can be obtained on loan for consultation in the premises of the Centre. The 32 volumes of Union Catalogue of social science periodicals and serials which have already been published enable the location of periodical volume in any one of 65 libraries in Delhi.

It is proposed to connect ILRC in New Delhi with Regional Centres outside Delhi which are being set up by the Indian Council of Social Science Research.

1. Inter-Library Resources Centre was set up in 1975 inviting local libraries to deposit their non-current, infrequently used but important for research publications particularly serials (i.e. Government reports, journals, newspapers, etc., with this Centre at 35 Ferozshah Road, New Delhi. 38 Libraries in Delhi have so far deposited their periodicals/ serials at the Centre).

2. The unique position of ILRC has made ILRC task a peculiar challenge which ILRC has tried to meet with the help of following programmes and activities:

   a. Building up a collection of reference material including Government reports etc;

   b. Collecting (i) unpublished doctoral theses approved by Indian Universities, and (ii) research reports and working papers of the projects undertaken by ICSSR and other Social Science Research Institutions assisted by ICSSR;

   c. Establishing duplicating, reprographic unit;

   d. Striving for bibliographic control over Social Science materials;

   e. Providing select bibliographies on request;

   f. Awarding Study Grant to research scholars for working at libraries of their interest;

   g. Providing research material to research scholas under one roof through inter-library loan. Incidentally, ILRC has, through inter-libraries loan, access to library material not available at 35 Ferozshah Road, New Delhi.

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Books as Objects of Beauty

R. K. DAS GUPTA

When about 40 years ago I bought an old copy of Dinesh Chandra Sen's 1.000-page History of the Bengali Language and Literature, I valued its glowing story of the Bengali Muse but what made the work a treasure-trove for me were its nine reproductions of manuscript-book illustrations, six of them being in colour. Painted in lacquer on wooden board they represent some of the episodes the Bhagata described in manuscript-books produced in Birbhum in the 16th and 17th centuries. Dinesh Chandra had collected or seen thousands of such Bengali manuscript illuminations made on wood, palm-leaf or paper. But it is a pity that only one amongst the 28 illustrations included in the fifth edition of his Bengali work Bangabhasha O Sahitya (1927) is a manuscript book-cover. This painted cover of a manuscript of Chaitanya Bhagavat (1661) represents Chaitanya and his companions. One, however, suspects that several other illustrations in this book and some in his two-volume Banga Sahitya Parichay (1914) are book-covers although they are not mentioned as such.

Any Bengali with an interest in the art and letters of his people would be fascinated by the large number of manuscript-book illustrations included in Dinesh Chandra's two-volume and 1,200 page Bengali work Brihat Banga (1934, 1935) which is as precious for its pictures as it is for its text. I remember how keen I was to see some manuscript-books to have a chance to have a look at the originals of such wonderful illustrations and I could inspect some in the manuscript collections of the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Bengal Manuscript Department of Calcutta University and the Asiatic Society and my abounding ignorance of Bengali painting did not prevent a deep appreciation of the pictures. What struck me most was that the manuscript-book was a work of both art and letters, the painter and the calligraphist joining the literary artist in creating an artefact.

A printed book too may be as it often is an art object. It contains illustrations and the publisher too cares for craftsmanship in printing, binding and cover design, William Morris who influenced book illustration in the Anglo-Saxon world once remarked that "a book, printed or written, has a tendency to be a beautiful object". But none of our teachers at school college or university ever drew our attention to the exterior of a book, their exclusive interest being in the pearls within the shell. It was Dinesh Chandra who taught me to love the shell through his many illustrations of book-covers of Bengali manuscripts. Actually my interest in the cover design, illustrations and binding of a printed book was created by my interest in the decorations of manuscript-books.

One of the big books that I acquired in my late high school days was John Drinkwater's *The Outline of Literature.* But at that time I had no eye for the few reproductions of manuscript-book illustrations it contained. I turned to them more than 10 years later after seeing the illustrations in Dinesh Chandra's work. I did admire the wonderful example of the illuminated manuscript of the Offices of the Virgin reproduced in the first volume of Drinkwater's book which also includes a facsimile of the illuminated papyrus inscribed with the hieroglyphic text of the Book of the Dead which is called the world's oldest book.

It was at the Bodleian that I first saw how beautifully the medieval bookbinders of Europe attired books and when I particularly admired the very elegant garment of a Latin book the very knowledgeable head of the Manuscript Division of the library told me that Cassiodorus, the sixth century Italian monk and librarian, asked his binders to find what he called proper "wedding garments for the heavenly feast". The illuminated manuscripts of the Bodleian attracted me so much that in my brief hours of

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furtive reading I browsed on Falkner Madan's Books in Manuscript and J.A. Herbert's Illuminated Manuscripts obviously with no idea of mastering their material. If my memory is not failing at this distance of time I saw in either of these books a picture of Jean Mielot, the famous medieval scholar and calligrapher. The picture taken from a manuscript preserved in the Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris shows how books were produced until the invention of printing.

I did not have the courage to discuss these things with my tutor although she was then working on Milton's first illustrator and even showed me her own copy of Patrick Hume's edition of *Paradise Lost* published in 1695, I feared any reference to medieval illuminated manuscripts would annoy her as unpardonable truancy from my proper study in which I was very slow. Also I knew that I could not possibly speak on manuscripts with the measure of precision one normally expects in academic conversation at Oxford.

The question of my collecting some specimens of illuminated manuscripts did not just arise. The price of some of them in Sotheby's catalogues was beyond the means of an Indian Maharaja after what Ballavbhai Patel had done to him. So I thought of acquiring some rare illustrated printed books, but alas the oldest book I could buy, a Milton title published in 1676, did not contain a single illustration. Toland's Milton's Prose (1698) contained some but they were not striking in any sense. The picture of Charles I in my copy of Eikon Basilike did not appeal to me although I spent a good deal on this 17th century title. Actually one of the finest decorated printed books I could buy as a rather resourceless undergraduate at Oxford was Rabindranath Tagore's Fireflies with Boris Artzybasheff's drawings on every page. That sometimes printing itself may be so elegant that every page has the look of a piece of decorative art I could see in a little book containing Voltaire's essay on Milton printed in Baskerville types by the printer of the Cambridge University Press who very generously presented me with a copy of this precious publication intended for private circulation.

My interest in the art of the book was revived when some dire fate put me on a job which required me to be concerned with books and manuscripts. In the holdings of the organization where I had the guilty feeling of an intruder in a paradise of seasoned library scientists there were picturesque items and I thought great centres of Indian manuscript-books could come together to publish an illustrated history of the art of the book in India. Toby Falk and Mildred Archer's Indian Miniatures in the India Office Library published only last year, Indian Paintings: Mughal Rajput and a Sultanate Manuscript by Toby Falk *et al* (1978) and the Keir Collection: Islamic Painting and the Arts of the Book edited by B.W. Robinson and others in 1976 would only intensify our desire for a comprehensive collection although I could not think of one person who could do the job.

When a few days ago the chief of the British Council in Calcutta very kindly lent me his library's copy of Jeremiah P. Losty's beautifully produced 160-page *The Art of the Book In India*, I was amazed by the abundance of its illustrations and the thoroughness of the narrative. The book has been published on the occasion of the British Library's exhibition on The Art of the Book in India as part of the Festival of India. Mr Losty, Assistant Keeper in the Department of Oriental Manuscripts and Printed Book in British Library, has written copiously and competently on the British Library's collection of Indian Manuscripts, one of his other recent works being Krishna : A Hindu Vision of God.

Mr Losty has very appropriately presented the whole story of Indian miniatures in five sections. Early Manuscript Illuminations, Manuscript Illumination During the Delhi Sultanate, the Imperial Library of the Great Moghul, Delhi and the Provinces 1600-1850 and European Influences on the Manuscript Tradition. The introductory essay is at once scholarly and perceptive as a study of the various aspects of book-making in India from the earliest times to the middle of the 19th century. Of the 155 illustrations in the book, 38 are in colour and they reproduce some of the finest things in Indian miniature. The reproductions bring out the major arts of the book—calligraphy, illumination, that is, embellishments with abstract designs in gold and colours, and illustration, that is, the addition of figural paintings and binding.

As Mr Losty points out, "manuscripts dating from before 1,000 are pitifully few", but those which belong to the second millennium are indeed glories of Indian miniature. A striking example of them is presented in colour plate I—a Bodhisattva holding a lotus which is taken from a manuscript associated with the name of Ramapala and was copied early in the 12th century. One of the miniatures of the Akbar period illustrates a Persian translation of Baburnama and shows Babar visiting Hindu ascetics. Colour plate XXX is a magnificent picture representing ascetics, saints and angels surrounding the opening phrases of the Akbarnama in praise of Speech. A typical example of European influence on our manuscript tradition is a miniature taken from the manuscript of Gulzar-Nasim, a "masnavi" in Urdu, written in the thirties of the last century. The fairies in the picture standing at a bathing pool have unmistakable European features.

Courtesy: The Sunday Statesman.

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Latest Soviet Titles on Economics

Y. Pevsner:

STATE-MONOPOLY CAPITALISM AND THE LABOUR THEORY OF VALUE.
Cloth, pp. 395, Rs. 7.25

This book by a well-known Soviet economist examines, from the Marxist-Leninist viewpoint, the relationship between value and non-value factors, the basic aspects of operation of the law of value, specific features of commodity production and the correlation between the expenditure of labour and the use value it creates under contemporary capitalism.

CURRENT PROBLEMS OF CONTEMPORARY CAPITALISM.
Cloth, pp. 215, Rs. 3.75

On the basis of development of capitalism in the 1970s, the authors examine the theoretical concept of the current stage of the crisis of capitalism. Special attention is paid to economic aspects of the deepening crisis of the capitalist system in the 1970s, with specific emphasis having been laid on analysing the pressing problems of state-monopoly capitalism and the contradictions between the imperialist states and their implications at the present state of the general crisis of capitalism. The monetary and financial crisis experienced by capitalism in the 1970s is also dealt with in the book. The book is based on extensive statistical data.

E. Cherevik and Y. Shayrkov:

AN ABC OF PLANNING.
Cloth, pp. 250, Rs. 5.85

The book outlines the basic theoretical and practical aspects of socialist planning especially of the planned management of socio-economic processes, extremely important for the developing countries. The authors examine the essence of planning, its principles, methodology and organisation, as well as fundamentals of national planning on a micro-economic level, and peculiarities of planning in different industries. It also includes a detailed analysis of planning at enterprises. Theoretical postulates are illustrated by examples from the experience of the, USSR, and other socialist and developing countries.

V. S. Dadayan:

MACRO-ECONOMIC MODELS.
Cloth, pp. 215, Rs. 8.25

The book, written by V.Dadayan, Doctor of Science (Economics) and a Department Head at the Central Mathematical-Economic Institute, USSR Academy of Sciences, sums up the results of his extensive research into the application of mathematical methods in the economy. His previous works are well known to both Soviet and foreign specialists in this field.

Apart from his own models, the book includes a review of the history of mathematical economic modelling in the USSR.

The author skilfully combines fundamental analysis and lucid exposition, making the book useful for the general readers.

A.Y. Elganov:

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND THE MARKET IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
Cloth, pp. 290, Rs. 6.50

The author of the book A.Y. Elganov, Doctor of Sciences (Economics), is a prominent Soviet scholar studying the problems of economic growth of developing countries. The monograph examines the emergence of commodity production in the developing countries economies as they interact with the domestic and international division of labour, and the impact of these processes on their economic development. The author shows the need for closer economic cooperation among the developing countries fighting for a new world economic order.

S.N. Nadel:

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The author of the book examines the most important changes in the structure of the middle classes in town and country, and among individual groups and sections of the population, which occurred under the impact of the scientific and technological revolution.

The book reveals the social conflicts and antagonisms between the middle classes, on the one hand, and the bourgeois state and policies pursued by the ruling circles of the capitalist countries, on the other. The monograph also brings to light the apologetic substance of various bourgeois, reformist and revisionist concepts of the middle classes.

P. Khovoinik:

TRADE AMONG CAPITALIST COUNTRIES.
Cloth, pp. 290, Rs. 6.75

The book by P. Khvoinik, Doctor of Science (Economics), gives a profound analysis of the present condition, pressing problems, main tendencies and prospects of development of the contemporary world capitalist trade and its place in the system of international division of labour. It also examines foreign trade relations between countries with different social systems.

On the basis of the Marxist-Leninist economic theory a detailed analysis is given of the main factors which determine the dynamics and structure of economic links between countries.

INDIA: PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPMENT.
Cloth, pp.210, Rs. 6.00

The collection India: Problems of Development published in the "Oriental Studies in the USSR" series contains articles by Soviet scholars on India's economic, political and social progress. They incorporate the results of research into economic and socio-political problems of independent India being carried out at the Institute of Oriental Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

The economy of India, like that of other developing countries, is regarded by Soviet scholars as a multistructural dynamic system. In this context of great interest is the all-round analysis of interstructural connections, the study of integration processes both between various socio-economic structures and branches of the national economy. For India, whose economy, in the opinion of Soviet economists, is of a somewhat dual character, the overcoming of disunity between the traditional and modern sectors, the town and country, is a major precondition for accelerated economic growth.

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V. Malkevich:

EAST-WEST ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGE.
Paper, pp.270, Rs. 2.50

The subject of this monograph-East-West economic ccoperation is highly topical and important. This monograph will be found extremely useful by readers in the West as well as in the developing countries concerned with the problems of establishing a new international economic order.

The author, Vladislav Malkevich, is an eminent Soviet specialist on matters of technological exchange, member of the Board of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade, Head of its Main Engineering and Technical Department. For many years he has been directly or indirectly connected with the drawing up of all the Soviet Union's agreements with other countries in the area of technological exchange.

THE SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL REVOLUTION AND THE CONTRADICTIONS OF CAPITALISM.
Cloth, pp.680, Rs. 18.00

The book is the outcome of an international theoretical conference on "The Scientific-Technological Revolution and the Capitalism at the Present Stage", held at the Institute of World Economy and International Relations, USSR Academy of Sciences, in May 1979. Papers were presented by Prominent Soviet scholars from various institutes of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Moscow and Leningrad universities and other institutions of higher-learning. Scholars from the socialist countries, representative of 28 Communist and Workers' Parties, and scholars from capitalist and developing countries took part in the conference. The papers included in this volume are of great interest to students of Marxist approach to today's major economic and political problems in the capitalist world.

PRESENT-DAY NON-MARXIST POLITICAL ECONOMY.
Cloth, pp.580, Rs. 9.50

This is a critique of Non-Marxist economic theories, with a Marxist analysis of the essence and specific features of the present stage in the crisis of bourgeois political economy. Part one deals with the present stage of the traditional schools of Western economic thought. The authors consider the views of the leading representatives of these schools on current problems of capitalist economy.

Part two contains a critical analysis of new economic doctrines (US institutionalism, Perroux's "general theory", "post-industrial society", "managerial revolution", "human capital", radical political economy, and so on).

Vitaly Vygodsky:

THE ECONOMIC SUBSTANTIATION OF THE THEORY OF SOCIALISM.
Cloth, pp.280, Rs. 6.00

The author is a prominent Soviet economist who has written a number of works which have been published in many languages.

This book is an in-depth study in the sphere of the theory of scientific communism; it analyses the connection of Marxist-Leninist economic theory and present-day topical problems. Considerable attention is paid to the condition and struggle of the working class in the capitalist countries, to the substantiation of the inevitability of the socialist revolution and to scientific prognostication of communist society.

CMEA: INTERNATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF SOCIALIST INTEGRATION.

Practice Problems and Prospects of Socialism.
Cloth, pp.380, Rs. 5.00

This monograph, prepared by a group of researchers from Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the GDR, Hungary, Poland, and the USSR, has been jointly brought out by these countries publishing houses.

The contributors analyses the process of the development and improvement of economic co-operation among the CMEA member-countries, show the principal features of socialist economic integration against the background of contemporary development of the world economy, and describe the salient features of its current stage and its prospects of development.

A great deal of attention has been paid in this book to problems of peaceful coexistence and evolution of economic ties between the two world social system.

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD.
Paper, pp.115, Rs. 2.00

The universal interest in the events and processes under way in Asia, Africa and Latin America, and especially in the historical successes of the national-liberation struggle of the peoples of these continents, has been reflected in many publications brought out by the Editorial Board of "Social Sciences Today". However, for some time now, a need has been felt, as evidenced by our readers' letters for bringing out new publications giving the views of Soviet special on current aspects of life in the states that have freed themselves from colonial dependence.

The present collection of articles opens a new series, "The Developing Countries: Problems and Perspectives", in which Soviet social scientists will analyse the economic, social and political situation in the emergent states, their development prospects and their role in world politics.

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It is divided into two parts, each of 11 chapters. Each of these chapters is preceded by an abstract summarising the main points and the thrust of thinking of the author at successive points of time. The prologue highlights the significant benchmarks in planned development in India within the broader frame of international economic relations. In the epilogue the author looks ahead into the 1980s.

Primarily concerned with international economics, it is throughout informed by Indian insights, a rare intellectual effort not found elsewhere. Above all, it depicts step by step the unfinished struggle for change in the world economy, reflecting both the revolution of rising expectations and reality of international economic relations today.

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"Dedicating a book is like making love in public"

EDWIN McDOWELL

Since Arthur Hailey wouldn't dedicate a book to his wife, Sheila, she dedicated her own book, "I Married A Best Seller" thus: "To my husband, Arthur Hailey, in the faint hope that this will shame him into dedicating a book to me."

Years ago Arthur Hailey dedicated an original television play to his producer, but he had sworn off dedications by the time he began writing books. "I don't believe in them," he said recently. "I always told my wife that dedicating a book is like making love in public."

But Mr. Hailey, author of "Hotel", "Wheels" and half-a-dozen other big sellers, is one of the few naysayers. While book publishing has undergone convulsive changes in recent years, most authors still dedicate their literary efforts to spouses, relatives and friends.

There are exceptions, of course, James Herriot dedicated "All Things Wise and Wonderful" to his dogs, Hector and Dan. And years earlier, Zane Grey, who practised dentistry in Manhattan before turning to fiction, dedicated "Western Pacific" to "a single strand of iron wire."

But Mr. Herriot is a veterinarian, and Grey, who wrote 80 or more books, could afford to look outside his immediate circle of family and friends. By contrast, few authors write more than a couple of books, so it is hardly surprising that most dedicate them to the people closest to them.

And even prolific authors sometimes feel the need to express their appreciation more than once. Joyce Carol Oates, for example, has dedicated at least two books to her husband. "Them" and "The Assassins". And Irving Wallace, also prolific, has dedicated most of his books to his wife, children or parents.

"But twice I had other dedications" said Mr. Wallace. "The Plot" is dedicated 'To Three Loves Plus One, Sylvia, David, Amy and Paris.' And 'The Seven Minutes' is dedicated 'To Fanny, Constance, Molly, who made it possible, and to Sylvia, David, Amy, who approved." The first three women, Mr. Wallace explained, are not rivals for his affection, but Fanny Hilly, Constance Chatterly and Molly Bloom, leading characters from three once-banned novels that figure prominently in Mr. Wallace's novel about the publication of a 1930's pronographic classic that results in the arrest of a Los Angeles bookseller in the 1960's.

Dedications seem little affected by political or ideological distinctions. Years ago John F. Kennedy dedicated "Profiles in Courage" to his wife, and this year Henry A. Kissinger dedicated "Years of Upheaval" to his wife. (Mr. Kissinger's "White House Years," published in 1979, is dedicated to Nelson A. Rockefeller.) Even couples who write together dedicate together: Joan Gregory Didion dedicated "Play It as It Lays" to her husband, John Gregory Dunne, and he in turn included his wife in the dedication to "True Confessions."

Sweethearts Galore

Because time and circumstances sometimes prompt second thoughts, some writers reportedly have dedicated one book to one spouse and subsequent books to subsequent spouses. A veteran editor said that one of her authors changed wives—and dedications—between the hardcover and paperback versions of the same book. And a philandering author of a decade ago supposedly specialised in such flowery edications as "To My Beloved" or "For My One and Only", each sufficiently vague for the author to assure each of several women that the book was dedicated to her alone.

Saul Bellow ("The Adventures of Augie March") and William Styron ("Sophie's Choice") dedicated books to their fathers. J.D. Salinger dedicated his only novel ("The Catcher in the Rye") to his mother, and Thornton Wilder dedicated one of his earliest novels, "The Bridge of San Luis Rey", to his mother, and one of his last novels, "The Eighth Day," to his sister. Norman Mailer also dedicated his recent "Pieces and Pontifications" to his sister. John Cheever not only dedicated "The Wapshot Chronicle" to

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his mother with love, but also added his "best wishes to practically everybody else I know." Bette Bao Lord's novel "Spring Moon" is dedicated to her husband, his and her parents and her editor.

Henrich Boell's latest novel, "The Safety Net", is dedicated to his two sons, half the number of sons that John le Carre dedicated 'Smiley's People" to. Seven King's "Cujo," a best seller last year and newly published in paperback, is dedicated to "my brother, David, who held my hand crossing West Broad Street, and who taught me how to make skyhooks out of old coathangers".

To A Mother-in-Law

Jack Higgins's new novel "Touch the Devil," is dedicated to Margaret Hewitt, his mother-in-law. "She's a nice old lady who kept asking why hadn't I dedicated a book to her," Mr. Higgins explained during a recent visit to the United States. Since Arthur Hailey wouldn't dedicate a book to his wife, Sheila, she wrote her own book ("I Married a Best Seller") and, according to Mr. Hailey, dedicated it thus: "To my husband, Arthur Hailey, in the faint hope that this will shame him into dedicating a book to me. P.S. I'm not holding my breath."

Years ago some publishing houses frowned on authors' dedicating books to editors. Alfred Harcourt, for example, wouldn't allow the following dedication by Jack Kerouac:

Since Kindness be the
Venus-star of Friendship,
and that Bright Star
Doth light the Lowest Hill,
May Praise be Worthy
of the Highest Good,
To my Editor, Mentor and
Friend
Robert Giroux.

But Ernest Hemingway dedicated his "The Old Man and the Sea" to Charles Scribner, his publisher, and Maxwell Perkins, his editor. John Steinbeck dedicated "Travels With Charley" to Harold Guinzburg, founder of the Viking Press, and both Steinbeck (in "East of Eden") and Saul Bellow (in "Herzog") dedicated books to Pat Covici, a longtime Viking editor. Carlos Baker, editor of last year's "Ernest Hemingway: Selected Letters", dedicated that book to Charles Scribner Jr., "publisher, editor, friend." John Updike dedicated "Month of Sundays" to Judith Jones, an editor at Alfred A. Knopf, and Joyee Carol Oates dedicated her bestselling "Bellefleur" to the late Henry Robbins, her editor at E.P. Dutton.

The unofficial champion of book dedications may well be William Shawn, editor of **The New Yorker**. His name does not appear in the magazine, but it appears in the dedications of at least 39 books beginning with S.N. Behrman's "Duveen" in 1952, right up to Jervis Anderson's "This Was Harlem," 30 years later. In the interim, J.D. Salinger, Lillian Ross, John Updike, John McPhee, Ved Mehta and E.B. White all dedicated books to Mr. Shawn, while Whitney Balliett, Thomas Whiteside, Joseph Wechsberg and Mollie Panter-Downes each dedicated two books to Mr. Shawn. "Naturally, each time a writer compliments me in this way I feel honored," Mr. Shawn said.

A number of books have been dedicated to literary agents. Bernard Malamud's new novel, "God's Grace", is dedicated to the late Diarmuid Russell, a founder of the Russell & Volkening literary agency, and to Mr. Russell's widow, Rose. Ken Folleft dedicated "Triple" to Al Zuckerman. Andrew Greeley dedicated "The Cardinal Sins" to the late Hilda Lindley. And Norman Mailer remembered Scott Meredith in dedications for "The Executioner's Song" and "An American Dream." Mr. Mailer's 'Why Are We in Vietnam?", recently reprinted in trade paperback, is dedicated to five friends, including Norman Podhoretz, the editor, Cy Rembar, the literary lawyer, and Jose Torres, the boxer.

Most authors complain about lack of publicity for their books, but Mickey Spillane dedicated "The Girl Hunters" to Elliott Graham, former publicity director of E.P. Dutton.

Immortal Dedications

Some dedications have outlived their authors. Thomas McCormack, president of St. Martin's Press, remembers a book dedicated to the sheriff who threw the author in jail, thereby giving him time to write. Jack Geoghegan, who recently retired from William Morrow & Company, said, "I can't remember the author, but I remember reading something like, 'This book is dedicated to my spouse without whose constant interruption it would have been finished six months ago.'

In his book "The Literary Life and Other Curiosities," Robert Hendrickson notes that authors rarely if ever dedicate their books in order to flatter someone in a brazen appeal for patronage, as Horace, Virgil and Cicero did. But just in case such appeals might work, Mr. Hendrickson dedicated his book "To Their Grace, the Exxon Corporation."

Many books have been dedicated to other writers. Henry Miller's "Black Spring" was dedicated to Anais Nin. Sinclair Lewis dedicated "Elmer Gantry" to H.L. Mencken. C.S. Lewis dedicated "The Screwtape Letter's to J.R.R. Tolkien. Richard Kim's novel "The Martyred" is dedicated to Albert Camus. Walke Percy dedicated "Love Among the Ruins" to Shelby Foote, the novelist, Civil War historian and fellow Mississippian. The mystery writer John Gardner, heir to the James Bond books, dedicated 'License Renewed," the first of his books

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on the super-hero 007. "In Memory of Ian Lancaster Fleming." Morris Philipson, director of the University of Chicago Press, dedicated his novel "The Wallpaper Fox" to Iris Murdoch. When he presented her with the book, Miss Murdoch, who was at that time the author of 22 books, read the dedication and said. 'Its so nice to see one's name in print."

Curtain-Raisers

Even movie directors have not been overlooked, Carlos Fuentes's recent "Distant Relations" is dedicated to the Spanish-born motion-picture director Luis Bunuel. Even as far back as 35 years ago, Ireland's feisty Liam O'Flaherty dedicated "Famine" to John Ford, who made a movie of O'Flaherty's "The Informer."

On the assumption that it would be superfluous to spell out the obvious, it is simply understood that the dedication "For Delmore and Philip" in William Barrett's recent "The Truants" means Delmore Schwartz, the late poet, and Philip Rahy, late founder and co-editor of the Partisan Review, Initials, however, pose a somewhat tougher problem for the reader, as, for example, Graham Greene's dedication of "The Heart of the Matter" to "V.G., L.C.G. & F.C.G."

William F. Buckley Jr. dedicated his recent novel, "Marco Polo, If You Can," to Hugh Kenner, the literary critic. "I've known him for a long time," said Mr. Buckley. "I was the best man at his wedding. I have tremendous respect for him." Mr. Kenner, pleased by the gesture, said it was the first novel dedicated to him, although two collections of essays have been dedicated to him, including a recent collection by the critic Guy Davenport. Meanwhile, D. Keith Mano's recent novel, "Take Five," is dedicated to Mr. Buckley, and Mr. Buckley's son Christopher dedicated his recent "Steaming to Bamboola," an account of life on a tramp steamer, to the late John Lennon, "son of a merchant seaman."

Some dedications tend to be sweeping, as for example in James Clavell's "Noble House," a novel about Hong Kong, which is dedicated thus: "I would like to offer this work as a tribute to her Britannic Majesty, Elizabeth II, to the people of Her Crown Colony of Hong Kong—and perdition to their enemies." The coming novel "Sassafrass, Cypress & Indigo" by Ntozake Shange is dedicated "to all women in struggle."

Some dedications are apparently intended to be understood only after reading the book. Thus, John Toland's recent "Infamy: Pearl Harbor and Its Aftermath" is dedicated "To the victims of Pearl Harbor." The book contends that the Administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt knew in advance about plans for the Japanese attack on the American naval base on Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

Perhaps the last word in dedications belongs to Dwight Macdonald, who edited "Parodies," a volume published in 1960. In it he wrote: "To my dear sons Michael and Nicholas without whose school bills this anthology would not have been made."

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A Romantic, Progressive Punjabi Poet

S.N. SEWAK

Professor Mohan Singh (1905-1978) was a versatile genius. He was a poet, story-writer, essayist, and journalist besides being an eminent teacher of Persian, Urdu, and Punjabi. He is popularly known as a romantic and progressive poet who stood resolutely for equality, justice and socialism. He won a number of national and international awards including the Sahitya Akademi award for his *Wadda Vela* in 1968, the Soviet Land Nehru award for *Jai Mir* in 1968, the Punjab Government's award for *Jandre* and the Punjabi University award for *Nanakayan* in 1972.

Mohan Singh published about a dozen collections of poems in Punjabi. He also translated Edwin Arnold's classic *The Light of Asia* and himself wrote an epic, *Nanakayan*, about the life of Guru Nanak.

Basically a romanticist and a humanist Mohan Singh was a bard of beauty like Keats, a social revolutionary like Shelley, and a lover of nature like Wordsworth. Like Byron's *Childe-Herald's Pilgrimage*, his earliest collection of romantic poems, *Save Pattar*, made him famous overnight. In fact, most people still know him as the author of *Save Pattar*, and editor of *Panj Dariya*.

Mohan Singh's immortal poem '*Kuri Pothohar Di*' reminds us of Wordsworth's 'The Solitary Reaper'. The picture of the girl carrying a bushel of grass on her head and helping the poet cross a difficult brook by letting him hold her finger is a captivating image. He can never forget her gentle touch and the very thought of the girl fills him with pleasure and helps him come out of the flood of worry and misery whenever he is in a depressed mood. There is a romantic strain in all his poems. He creates a unique imagery which lends an abiding wealth of beauty to his poetry.

The progressive movement had exercised great influence on poets, playwrights, novelists and intellectuals in India. The first conference of the Progressive Writers' Association was held in Lucknow in 1936. The provincial conference of the Punjab PWA was held at the historic Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar, in 1937. This movement had a great impact on Mohan Singh's poetry and he began to harness romantic expression for progressive themes. The struggle for independence also stirred his consciousness. He identified slavery as a youthful fairy dressed in gold trying to ensnare the political revolutionary in *Maen Nahin Rehna Tere Gran*'. This evidently shows that he was influenced by Keats' '*La Belle Dame Sans Merci*'.

After World War II and soon after independence, a peace movement was launched by the Communist Party of India, Mohan Singh had already become a whole-time member of the party. He wrote poems of peace, progress and socialistic thought. Also poems on socio-political exploitation. He fought for the down-trodden in his own creative way.

Modernity has been expressed in India in two ways—English education and Marxist ideology. Mohan Singh came under the influence of both. His romantic temper was shaped by his study of English romantic poets while his humanistic outlook and socialist sympathies were an outcome of his study of Marxism and his alignment with the communist movement.

Despite these influences, however, Mohan Singh was highly individualistic in many ways. His love-poems are marked by an intense Passion. He wants a socialistic pattern of society only for the sake of personal fulfilment.

Mohan Singh was a symbol of national consciousness. He stood above distinctions of caste, creed, colour, socio-economic status, and narrow regional boundaries. In '*Aoa Hindiya*', he urges the people to join in a dance of love so that their dream of a happy and prosperous India may come true. He was indeed a national poet whose works merit translation in other Indian languages. Punjabis are justly proud of this brilliant star on the literary horizon.

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FEDERATION NEWS

NINTH AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN BOOK PRODUCTION, 1982

It is proposed to give Awards for Excellence in Book Production for the ninth time this year. Such Awards were last given in February 1982 during the World Book Fair held in New Delhi to publishers of books not only in English and Hindi but in other Indian languages as well.

The Awards for this year will be given for books produced in India from 1 January to 31 December 1982 in three separate groups, namely, (i) Books in English (ii) Books in Hindi and (iii) Books in regional languages, each in the following categories :

(1) Art books and pictorial books involving reproduction of halftone illustrations
(2) Textbooks—schools
(3) Textbooks—colleges
(4) Children's books
(5) Scientific and technical books
(6) Medical and legal books
(7) Paperbacks
(8) General Books
(9) Reprints
(10) Jackets
(11) Catalogues-unpriced promotional ones
(12) Book posters
(13) Brochure
(14) Any other publicity material

Besides books selected for the first and second awards and certificates of merit, a select list of titles in each category will also be prepared. The list will include titles which do not earn any award but which are sufficiently well produced. This short select list will also be exhibited at the award giving ceremomy.

A committee of Judges consisting of the following will be formed for the selection of the titles to be given awards/certificates.

(1) A nominee of All India Federation of Master Printers.
(2) A nominee of the Ministry of Education and Culture, Government of India.
(3) A nominee of the College of Arts, New Delhi.
(4) A nominee of Authors Guild of India.
(5) A nominee of the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity, Government of India, Ministry of I and B.
(6) A nominee of the Federation of Indian Publishers.

The books not selected for any of the awards can be taken back by the publishers concerned by making their own arrangements for collecting these from the Federation office. The books for which awards/certificates are given will be retained by the Federation. The awards will be confined only to members of the Federation and of its affiliated associations.

While a sufficient number of books in English have been received in the past for consideration for awards, entries in respect of Hindi and regional languages were not sufficient. Publishers in these languages are, therefore, specially requested to ensure that they send sufficient number of titles so that a good number of awards/certificates could be earned by titles brought out in languages other than English.

Publishers are requested kindly to send their titles for consideration so as to reach the Executive Secretary, Federation of Indian Publishers, Federation House, 18/1-C, Institutional Area, JNU Road, New Delhi-110067, by Saturday, 22 January 1983. Titles in languages other than English should be accompanied by typed lists in Roman Script indicating also the category in each case.

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NEWS & EVENTS

SLOVAK PUBLISHING HOUSES TO PUBLISH 3,000 BOOKS

Bratislava: Slovak publishing houses are preparing for publication next year over 3,000 titles in about 26 million copies, the majority being Slovak works and one-third of total publications being textbooks. Slovak is the language of the Slovak Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia with a little more than 5 million population.

Prevailing in translated literature are books by authors from the USSR and other socialist countries. A selection of works by Honore de Balzac and Virginia Woolf is being prepared, as well as new publications of the works by classics of western literature, e.g. Byron, Corbiere, Homer, Stendhal, Baroja, Lagerloef, and by contemporary authors such as Clavell, Druan, Malaparte, O'hara and others.

In the past few years, exports of Slovak non-periodical literature to socialist and non-socialist countries increased by more than 40 per cent, the major customers being the USSR, Hungary, West Germany, Netherlands, Britain, Belgium, Finland, Sweden and Denmark.

Deserving attention among exported publications is for example the "Atlas of Topographical Anatomy of Animals", printed in 12 languages, which has been bought by the United States, Canada, Spain, Yugoslavia and the USSR.

PM RELEASES BOOK

The Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, released a book on Monday recording the heroic deeds of ten eminent leaders of the freedom movement.

The personalities the book deals with are Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Lala Lajpat Rai, Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Patel, Rajagopalachari, Abul Kalam Azad, Jawaharlal Nehru, B. R. Ambedkar, and Subhash Chandra Bose.

The book's authors are a husband-wife team—B.K. and Shashi Ahluwalia. Titled 'Architects of Swaraj' the book puts into perspective the dynamic leadership of these people against the might of colonial rule.

BOOK PRESENTED TO CULTURAL BODY

Mr Des Raj Sharma, popularly known as 'Kanwal', presented a copy of his book Phool Khile Hain' in Urdu to the National Cultural Organisation. Mr N P. Seshadri, secretary of the organisation, who received the book, said that the book would be released on the occasion of the Tansen Festival later this month by Ustad Bismillah Khan.

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Sirkhazi S. Govindarajan, the noted vocalist, presented a set of his devotional records to Mr Seshadri.

NIA AWARD FOR N. R. CHANDRAN AND KHUSHWANT SINGH

Shri N.R. Chandran, General Manager of Press Trust of India, and Shri Khushwant Singh, Editor of "The Hindustan Times" have been selected for the 'Man of International Media award' by the National Integration Assembly.

Shri Chandran has been conferred the award for his contribution to PTI's expansion and promotion of the news from non-aligned world.

Shri Khushwant Singh has been chosen for his scholarly translations of important Urdu poetry for the benefit of English speaking people and for his efforts to bring India and Pakistan on a common platform through his writings, according to a NIA press release.

The NIA jury chose for the 'Man of the National Media Award.' Shri Aroon Purie, Editor of "India Today", Shri M.J. Akbar, Editor of "The Telegraph," and Shri Gurudev Gupta, Editor of the Hindi daily "Dainik Jagaran."

BOOK PIRACY

Dr S. Gopal Mr. Shrikant Verma, Mrs. Anita Desai, Professor Sukhmoy Chakravarty, Dr V.V. John, among others, said in a letter addressed to the Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi that book piracy had become widespread. They pointed out in their letter that the Indian Copyright Act of 1957 was inadequate to protect the interests of author or publisher, because book piracy was not treated as a cognizable offence. (See our October Editorial 'Book Piracy').

SIXTH CONGRESS OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN LIBRARIES, MAY-JUNE, 1983

The sixth Congress of Southeast Asian Libraries (CONSAL VI) will be organised in Singapore from 30 May to 3 June 1983. The Organisers of CONSAL VI also plan to hold an Exhibition of Library material and equipment to coincide with the Congress. All those interested in participating in the Exhibition may contact Mr R. Ramachandran, Chairman, CONSAL VI Exhibition Committee, C/o National Library, Stamford Road, Singapore-0617.

KARNATAKA BOOK FESTIVAL, MYSORE—JANUARY 1983.

The NBT is organising the Festival at Mysore from 2-12 January 1983 on the occasion of the first World Kannada Conference. The folder containing terms and conditions will be issued shortly by the Trust. In the meantime the publishers desiring to participate may intimate their requirements of stands to Shri M.L. Munshi, Deputy Director (Exhibition), National Book Trust, A-5, Green Park, New Delhi—110 016.

NATIONAL BOOKFAIR, CHANDIGARH FEBRUARY 1983—NATIONAL BOOK EXHIBIT

The NBT is organising 11th National Book Fair which will take place in Chandigarh from 25 February to 7 March 1983. A major feature of the fair will be a collective display of selected books on a wide variety of subjects in English and Indian languages published since January 1981.

Publishers are invited to send us a copy each of their publications for selection for the National Exhibit as early as possible. The last date for receipt of book is 31 December 1982.

The parcels should be marked to : Deputy Director (Exhibition), National Book Trust, India, A-5 Green Park, New Delhi-110016.

A CORRECTION

In the International Number 1982, on the second cover the name of S. Chand & Company Ltd. was wrongly printed as S. Chand & Company Pvt. Ltd. The mistake is very much regretted.

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Measuring the condition of India's poor : The physical quality of life index. New Delhi, Promilla and Co., 1982, ix+100p. Rs 80

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Small farmers : A study on their entrepreneurial behaviour. New Delhi, Metropolitan, 1982, xv+112p. Rs 60

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Encounters with the eminent. Bombay, IBH Publishing, 1982, Rs 20

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Is black beautiful or is it beautiful only when it has a political potency in posters or apartheid issues ? Or is black really an interior darkness in the mind of the perceiver ? These are some of the many questions that re-bound on their own reflexes in a numb society. They torment the consciousness of Bhuma, an intelligent, attractive—but dark—young woman.

Marriage for Bhuma backfires when her husband, intimidated by her vibrant personality, asserts himself by deriding her dark complexion and turns her out. Outside marriage Bhuma develops into an educated, independent woman who meets her match in Ramachandran, a dynamic news-editor. Their uneasy relationship generates an intensity that is equally unbearable for the characters and the readers of the novel.

MRITYUNJAY : A Novel in Assamese,—B.K. Bhattacharyya, Translated into English by D.N. Bezboruah, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 120

Mrityunjay is the recipient of the prestigious Jnanpith Award—the highest literary honour to be awarded in India. Written by Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya in Assamese, the novel is now being presented in English by D.N. Bezboruah, who has done a superb job at capturing the essence of the original in his translation.

RUSTLING OF MANY WINDS, by Romen Basu, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 60

Romen Basu's latest book is a collection of short stories—his second. Those readers who know him only as a novelist may be surprised at the wide range of subjects covered in his short stories. His keen ear for dialogues and his intuitive grasp of different cultures, makes his characters spring to life, whether the setting is in a Bengali village, a summer home in upstate New York or a bachelor's "pad" in the glittering urban environment of Rio de Janeiro.

His subtle brand of humour is unmistakable. Yet, even as one laughs at the foibles of his characters, one appreciates the gentleness and humanity that informs his vision. This is the work of a man who has travelled the world and assessed its common humanity in terms of the logic and grace of his own convictions.

ASURAVITHU, M.T. by Vasudevan Nair, Kerala Sahitya Akademi, Trichur, 1981, Rs 30

This is the story of Govindan Kuttu a man trapped by the Social aspirations of his family and the traditional rigidities of his milieu.

His attempt to break these bonds lead him to conversion from religion to another conflict with family and friends, and finally, a lonely confrontation of himself.

HYMNS TO THE DANCING SIVA : A Study of Menikkavacakar's Tiruvancakam, Glenn E. Yocum, Heritage Publishers, 1982, Rs 75

This text is historically interesting because in it one can detect literary and religious influences from the pre-sanskritic cankam period of Tamil literature (Ca 100-300 A.D.) in addition to Brahmanical concepts.

The aim of this study of the Tiruvancakam is not only to locate Manikkavacakar in the history of the Hindu Tradition but to understand him as a religious man, to enter empathetically into his world so that the religious intent of his thought and practice might be discerned.

What emerges from the Tiruvacakam's poetry is a deeply personal expression of the poet's transformation from a state of bondage to karma, ego, and social convention to a participation in the freedom of Siva's dancing, sporting "madness" accomplished though the ecstatic "melting" of devotional love.

FOLK TALES OF MAURITIUS, by Pahlad Ramsurrun, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 20

The folk tales of a country more than anything else, reflect the genre of its people, their beliefs, customs, manners, attitudes and way of life. This is the twelfth volume in the series of Folk Tales of the World.

This volume which is written by a world known writer contains a collection of legends, folk tales, folk songs and folk sayings in the creole dialect with French text. It will not only attract children but also every person who is interested in reading.

TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES, Thomas Hardy, Rupa & Co., 1982, Rs 20

Thomas Hardy's Tess of the d'Urberville has become a modern classic. In it Hardy concerned himself with the question of fate and its influence upon the lives of the people. If Tess's father had not learned that he was a d'Urberville an Angel had found the letter Tess slipped under the door, her life would have been much different. But fate ruled that these things were to happen, and so determined the

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course of Tess's life Hardy called Tess a pure girl, and so she was, he believed that she was not responsible for the actions, and he forces us to agree with him.

INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH, by K.R. Srinivasa Iyengar, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 200

The present volume is an exercise, both in literary and cultural history. Beginning with the work of pioneers like Rammohan Roy, the survey dwells in some details on the achievements of such makers of modern India as Derozio, Toru Dutt, Rabindra Nath Tagore, Sri Aurobindo, Mahatma Gandhi, Sarojini Naidu and Jawaharlal Nehru and adequately covers the works of contemporaries like Nirad C. Chaudhuri, R.K. Narayan, Raja Rao, Kamala Markandaya, Dom Moraes, Anita Desai, Ved Mehta, Arun Joshi and others.

SOCIOLOGY OF NAMES AND NICKNAMES OF INDIA—with special reference to Kashmir by R.K. Kaul, 1982, Rs 75

Study of Indic names is full of fascination for a zealous investigator. The convention of bestowing names in India has its roots in remote past. Its study is inextricably confused by considerations of race and caste.

The institution of surnames, though a later addition to Indian names, is a panorama of fascination as well as complications.

Nicknames in India in general, and in Kashmir in particular, have been developed and nourished to their possible ends. Present Kashmiri surnames are almost cent per cent specimen of Nicknames. Though, often they are repulsive and abnoxious, yet their utility as individualising elements and marks of identification cannot be ignored.

ESSAYS ON SOCIO-CULTURAL PROBLEMS by K. Balan, The Indian Publications, 1982, Rs 30

Intended for the general reader, this book attempts to provide an account of the trends in various socio-cultural problems which weaken the "will" of the people thereby endangering the establishment of a healthy democratic society. The titles of the chapters in the book viz. population control, problems from an unplanned family, child welfare, problems of discarded human beings, sociological aspects of diseases, caste system from social perspective, women and society, public involvement in social welfare etc. give a clear exposition of its immense social value in the present day society, which is caught in the cobwebs of superstitions and prejudices. In a Welfare State where the welfare of the individual is the responsibility of all, it is imperative that every citizen should have a first hand knowledge of the socio-cultural problems in the society. His understanding the problems will help him to play an instrumental role in solving them and bringing about the desired social change and social development. In this light, the book is expected to be a friend, philospher and guide to the general public.

TODOR ZHIVKOV—Selected Works, People's Publishing House (P) Ltd., 1982, Rs 15

Comrade Todor Zhivkov, General Secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party and President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria is an acknowledged statesman, a leader of the international communist movement, a renowned Marxist-Leninist, one of the most outstanding world leaders and a friend of India. He has been leading his country and his Party from success to success. An inheritor of the glorious traditions set by outstanding leaders like Comrade Georgi Dimitrov, Comrade Zhivkov by his contributions and works has enriched the traditions of the Bulgarian communists. As a staunch Marxist-Leninist and proletarian internationalist his tireless efforts for the cohesion and unity of the world communist movement have been widely noted. Under his leadership Bulgaria has consolidated its position from an agrarian country to an industrialised one. Bulgaria is building developed socialism on way to communism. It is playing its due role—political, economic and otherwise—as a member of the world socialist community. Comrade Zhivkov's contributions in the struggle for peace, his initiative to declare the Balkans as a zone of peace, his endeavours in strengthening detente and last but not the least his keen personal attention in developing a useful and varted Indo-Bulgarian relationship are well known.

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Vol. XXVII No. 3 *December 1982*

INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY

Book Production and Distribution Journal

Editor-in-Chief
O.P. GHAI

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P. DIAS

Monthly Listing Editor
KRISHAN GOPAL

INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY
Is published monthly by Sterling Publishers Pvt Ltd., L-10, Green Park Extension, New Delhi 110016.

Advertising & Subscription Agents

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Mr. Warren E. Ball
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1-19-8, Kakigarcho Nihonbashi
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Subscription Rates

	Indian	*Foreign*	
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Three Years	*120.00*	*30.00*	*15.00*

Printed and published by Shri O.P. Ghai

CONTENTS

INTER-LIBRARY RESOURCES CENTRE: A Significant Indian-Experiment
—*S.P. Agrawal* 5

BOOKS AS OBJECTS OF BEAUTY
—*R.K. Das Gupta* 9

DEDICATING A BOOK IS LIKE MAKING LOVE IN PUBLIC
—*Edwin McDowell* 15

A ROMANTIC PROGRESSIVE PUNJABI POET
—*S.N. Sewak* 19

FEDERATION NEWS 20

NEWS & EVENTS 21

MONTHLY LISTING 23

BOOK REVIEWS 28

Season's Greetings
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For A Happy
And Prosperous
New Year

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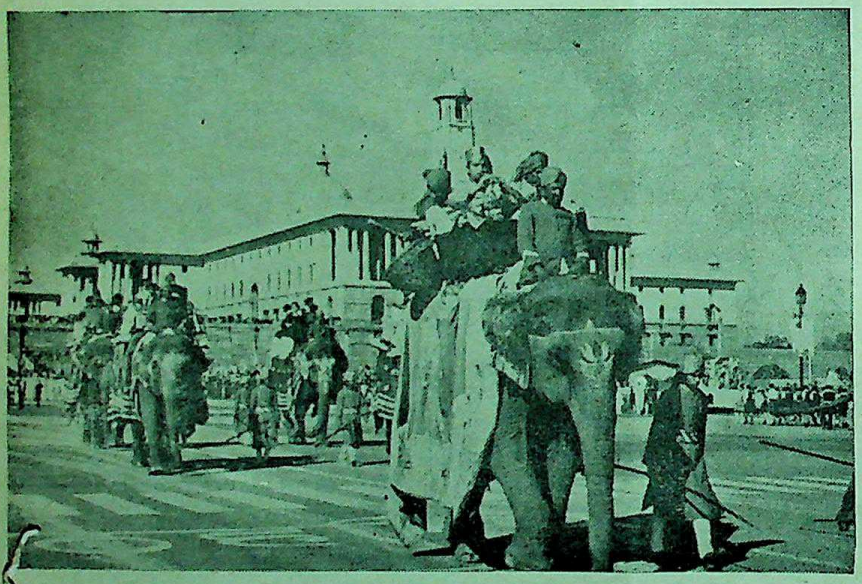

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Inter-Library Resources Centre: A Significant Indian Experiment

S. P. AGRAWAL*

Although the tradition of teaching and research in social science in India is of recent origin, the concern over the outcome of rapid changes and the response of the Indian academic community to developments abroad have contributed to the speedy growth of social sciences in the country. In the face of ever-burgeoning materials, published and otherwise, it is almost impossible for a single library to cope with all the needs of its users.

To keep pace with the information explosion, various methods have been suggested or practised the world over. These include a structured pattern of libraries leading to the development of repositories and resource sharing in India, we have embarked on a new experiment, the Inter-Library Resources Centre, to collect reading matter and research tools for scholars, combining the sailent features of a repository and resource sharing in the process.

The repository concept is generally related with the storage, preservation and continued availability of [illegible] material discarded [illegible] libraries through lack of space'. Few libraries play the role of a repository exclusively; many of them continue, in themselves, the functions of a repository as well as the "usual" library.

Repositories are precluded from taking an active part in national interlending or acquisition systems because of a lack of ability or willingness to transfer library stock, paucity of suitable buildings and shortage of trained manpower, and also because of "user perceptions of their need for on-site access".

In the absence of clear-cut legislative guidelines, there are sharp differences of opinion on what stock should be relegated to a repository, and the decisions have to be left to the whims of the relegating library, which is frequently weak in methods of transfer and in maintaining the catalogue and other records.

Repositories, it has been emphasized, are not glamorous. 'They do not have the immediacy of on-line retrieval, the excitement of new techniques, even the human satisfaction of community information services. And yet, they are fundamental to all library and information activities, and it is short-sighted to concentrate on the techniques of information exploitation if the information itself is being slowly but inexorably lost'.

The objectives of 'resources sharing, on the other hand, can be achieved through various organizational arrangements called the consortium, the network or the cooperative. Generally, the term, 'resource' signifies a thing, person or action, which is handy in times of need. 'Resource Sharing' involves reciprocity, "a partnership in which each member has something useful to contribute to others and which each is willing and able to make available when needed. Resource sharing denotes a mode of operation whereby library functions are shared in common by a number of libraries."

The justification of resource-sharing, particularly in India, is apparent from the fact that libraries organizing research collections have to spend a lion's share of their acquisition budgets in purchasing materials that are seldom, if ever, used. The libraries, in this context, should strive more and more to realise 'use' as well as 'non-use' in terms of the acquisition budgets earmarked for each category. And this brings them logically to the resource sharing efforts and to the experiment, which has every possibility of being a great success, of the Inter-Library Resources Centre.

A traditional and tested method to this end is the inter-library loan system, but it has certain limitations. It is not difficult at all to obtain or send a few volumes under the system. When the number of these transactions is small and not [illegible] daily

* Director, Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi.

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occurrence, the inter-library loan system is both cheap and quick. But if the transactions are more frequent, they tend to be more complex and also costlier. Different libraries have different rules on loaning their material. Some, for example, do not send out periodicals as a matter of rule, while some others stipulate that the loaned material must be used on the premises of the borrowing library. The security and care of the loan material poses delicate issues, which are sometimes insoluble.

Another method, which is of far-reaching significance in terms of sharing resources among several libraries, is to establish a Centre, where different libraries could deposit such research material as are not used frequently by them, and the Centre, in its turn, would be responsible for organizing the materials and making them available to all visiting scholars. Obviously, the second alternative would be a great service to research workers. If the service is properly organized, researchers may not be required to visit different libraries for research material concentrated at the Centre in a substantially large quantity.

A Centre of this kind has added advantages, some of which are :

1) The depositing libraries will have increased space on their shelves after their less-used volumes are removed to the Centre. They can fill up the vacuum with more recent books needed by their regular users;

2) The authorities of the depositing libraries will also have the satisfaction that the research material acquired by them painstakingly over several years will now be used profitably and more frequently by a large number of local as well as out-station social scientists;

3) The care and preservation of their materials ensured, the depositing libraries will have their budget allocations used for others purposes;

4) Any lacunas in the collections from the depositing libraries will be filled up by the materials deposited by other libraries at the Centre. This is particularly true of the gaps in the back files of periodicals which are very expensive to fill; and

5) A spirit of active and meaningful cooperation will be generated among the libraries, which will vie with one another to extend their cooperation to other spheres, and all this will lead to a better service to their users. These libraries could, in the circumstances, share acquisition programmes to step up specialization, cataloging, programming to secure consistency and uniformity, and micro-filming programmes.

The Centre may also undertake to establish and maintain a Union Catalogue of foreign monographs currently acquired by all or selected depositing libraries if each of them could send a card to the Centre for every new foreign monograph acquired by them. A Union Catalogue of this type will supplement the Union Catalogue of Social Sciences Serials, and will be yet another information tool on the growing resources for social science research in the libraries in Delhi.

The establishment of the Centre will help evolve a well-coordinated system, under which the unit libraries in Delhi will overcome local difficulties of staff, space and budget. The capital has perhaps the largest cluster of libraries in India, and they may be broadly divided into four groups:

i) Academic libraries which include the libraries of the universities and colleges. These are naturally multifocal, i.e. they have acquired and preserved over many years, printed materials in the form of books, periodicals and pamphlets in various disciplines of knowledge including social sciences for the needs of their students and faculties.

ii) The Government of India libraries which are more restricted in their scope. Each of them has acquired and preserved, for several years, printed materials in the form of books, periodicals, pamphlet and also Government publications on only such subjects as are within the scope of activities of its parent body which is either the Ministry, its Department or attached or subordinate office. Since the total Governmental activities are comprehensive of all phases of social life, almost all Government of India libraries are primarily resource bases for social research.

iii) The libraries of the Autonomous Institutions are even more specialized. Each of these institution has very specific activities and most of them are devoted to study and research in particular branches of social sciences, e.g. the Indian Institute of Public Administration, the Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis, the Institute of Foreign Trade, the Institute of Manpower Research, the Indian Law Institute, and so on.

iv) Public libraries are established to cater to the needs of general public. [illegible] libraries often also develop special collections and/or [illegible] with the changing [illegible] Delhi Public Library, Delhi.

The total number of libraries of all these categories in Delhi would be about 150. Many of them were established long before Independence although quite a few have come into

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existence only after 1947. As reservoirs of research material, about half of these libraries are known to have large collection of social science material. A rough estimate is that they would have between them, over two million volumes and their total annual intake by purchase, gift and exchange would exceed 100,000 titles. There are about 400 library trained personnel engaged in these libraries and annual maintenance cost including staff salary, book budgets and other services would be close to Rs. 20.00 million. Delhi thus has a vast resource base for research in social sciences and it is expanding year after year by the establishment of new institutions and by additional funds becoming available.

An inevitable feature of such a situation is that a good deal of resource material has become duplicated, some of it is available at only a few places and some needed material is perhaps nowhere available among the libraries in the city. None of these libraries has become, or will ever become, self-sufficient for its actual or potential needs. Moreover, most of these libraries have grown and are growing beyond their available space capacity. In consequence, the older material which is ordinarily less frequently used gets crowded on shelves in two or three rows and also gets relatively less attended to as far as its maintenance is concerned. As a result, even the material which was once known to be available is not often located quickly for subsequent use. Yet another disadvantage to the researcher in social sciences is that he has to go from one library to another in search of his material and only in anticipation that the material required by him may become available to him on time in his pursuit of several libraries. In this, he faces some odd situations. Many of the Government libraries require special passes to visit them. There are not always good reading facilities provided in some libraries. Most libraries function during normal office hours only and the paucity of staff and space in many of these libraries render the use of the material somewhat difficult for a research worker visiting Delhi for a short period.

The ICSSR with its primary objective to promote research in social sciences since its inception in 1969 took note of this situation and initiated several programmes, some time bound and some continuing, but all aimed at facilitating social science research. One such important programme has been the compilation of union catalogue of social science periodicals and serials. The union catalogue enables a person to locate social sciences serials and periodicals available in important libraries of India. On the completion of the first phase of Union Catalogue Project, the compilation of a Retrospective Index of Indian Social Science Periodicals was taken up.

In 1973, ICSSR jointly with the Jawaharlal Nehru University, established Inter-library Resources Centre. For this purpose, the University made available library-wing of its building at 35 Ferozshah Road, the facilities of its hostel nearby and adequate accommodation on its new campus. The main office of the ILRC at 35 Ferozshah Road which is very centrally located as far as the libraries having large collection of social science research material are concerned and also for use by the general public. To begin with, the Council invited a meeting of the librarians of the important libraries in Delhi and requested them to deposit only their back files of Social Science Periodicals which are not too often in use in their libraries.

The response was very good. The Council, thereafter made formal arrangements to accept the deposits of back files of Social Science Periodicals, Newspapers, Government Documents. Under this scheme local libraries—a dozen of them initially deposited their non-current, infrequently used material but important for research with ILRC. The idea has caught on, and the number of participating libraries including SSDC has risen to 38. The deposits are accepted on condition that the proprietary right of each depositing library in respect of its material will be maintained and the material will be well preserved and made available for consultation on the premises by anybody. The depositing libraries can withdraw their deposits temporarily or permanently if they so desire. They may also gift the material to the ILRC at their will. Several libraries have already gifted some material. The material is processed in a simple manner to enable its quick location for use. The depository collection has already begun to attract visitors wishing to use this material because the back files of journals, research reports and government documents are now available for consultation under one roof.

In setting up the Inter-Library Resources Centre, the Council's objective has been not simply of accumulating social science research material at one place, but to provide a variety of services to the community of social scientists among which the following may be mentioned:

i) To the social scientists who are stationed in Delhi, the ILRC is within easy reach. At present ILRC remains open on all days of the year except 26th Jan. 15th August and 2nd October, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Monday through Friday; 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on Saturday, Sunday and gazetted holidays. In course of time, the working hours of the ILRC would be extended to facilitate its use for longer hours on working days as well as on Sundays and other holidays.

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ii) For persons stationed elsewhere in India, the Council has introduced a scheme of study grants which provides for two-way travel and a modest allowance per day for lodging and boarding. Efforts are made to provide accommodation in the hostel nearby.

iii) ILRC provides reprographic service so that readable photo-copies of required articles from periodicals or of reasonable extracts from other documents in the Centre are supplied on a cost-basis to local as well as outside scholars. The charges at present are Rs. 0.60 for the first exposure and Rs. 0.15 for additional copies.

iv) ILRC also provides short bibliographies on specific subjects on demand, tailored to the needs of the research scholar. There is a nominal charge of Rs. 5/- for 100 entries or in part thereof.

v) For Inter-library loan services, the Centre also maintains a carrier service so that the Periodicals volumes or Documents which are not available in the Centre but are available in some library in Delhi can be obtained on loan for consultation in the premises of the Centre. The 32 volumes of Union Catalogue of social science periodicals and serials which have already been published enable the location of periodical volume in any one of 65 libraries in Delhi.

It is proposed to connect ILRC in New Delhi with Regional Centres outside Delhi which are being set up by the Indian Council of Social Science Research.

1. Inter-Library Resources Centre was set up in 1975 inviting local libraries to deposit their non-current, infrequently used but important for research publications particularly serials (i.e. Government reports, journals, newspapers, etc., with this Centre at 35 Ferozshah Road, New Delhi. 38 Libraries in Delhi have so far deposited their periodicals/ serials at the Centre).

2. The unique position of ILRC has made ILRC task a peculiar challenge which ILRC has tried to meet with the help of following programmes and activities:

   a. Building up a collection of reference material including Government reports etc;

   b. Collecting (i) unpublished doctoral theses approved by Indian Universities, and (ii) research reports and working papers of the projects undertaken by ICSSR and other Social Science Research Institutions assisted by ICSSR;

   c. Establishing duplicating, reprographic unit;

   d. Striving for bibliographic control over Social Science materials;

   e. Providing select bibliographies on request;

   f. Awarding Study Grant to research scholars for working at libraries of their interest;

   g. Providing research material to research scholas under one roof through inter-library loan. Incidentally, ILRC has, through inter-libraries loan, access to library material not available at 35 Ferozshah Road, New Delhi.

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Books as Objects of Beauty

R. K. DAS GUPTA

When about 40 years ago I bought an old copy of Dinesh Chandra Sen's 1.000-page History of the Bengali Language and Literature, I valued its glowing story of the Bengali Muse but what made the work a treasure-trove for me were its nine reproductions of manuscript-book illustrations, six of them being in colour. Painted in lacquer on wooden board they represent some of the episodes the Bhagata described in manuscript-books produced in Birbhum in the 16th and 17th centuries. Dinesh Chandra had collected or seen thousands of such Bengali manuscript illuminations made on wood, palm-leaf or paper. But it is a pity that only one amongst the 28 illustrations included in the fifth edition of his Bengali work Bangabhasha O Sahitya (1927) is a manuscript book-cover. This painted cover of a manuscript of Chaitanya Bhagavat (1661) represents Chaitanya and his companions. One, however, suspects that several other illustrations in this book and some in his two-volume Banga Sahitya Parichay (1914) are book-covers although they are not mentioned as such.

Any Bengali with an interest in the art and letters of his people would be fascinated by the large number of manuscript-book illustrations included in Dinesh Chandra's two-volume and 1,200 page Bengali work Brihat Banga (1934, 1935) which is as precious for its pictures as it is for its text. I remember how keen I was to see some manuscript-books to have a chance to have a look at the originals of such wonderful illustrations and I could inspect some in the manuscript collections of the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Bengal Manuscript Department of Calcutta University and the Asiatic Society and my abounding ignorance of Bengali painting did not prevent a deep appreciation of the pictures. What struck me most was that the manuscript-book was a work of both art and letters, the painter and the calligraphist joining the literary artist in creating an artefact.

A printed book too may be as it often is an art object. It contains illustrations and the publisher too cares for craftsmanship in printing, binding and cover design, William Morris who influenced book illustration in the Anglo-Saxon world once remarked that "a book, printed or written, has a tendency to be a beautiful object". But none of our teachers at school college or university ever drew our attention to the exterior of a book, their exclusive interest being in the pearls within the shell. It was Dinesh Chandra who taught me to love the shell through his many illustrations of book-covers of Bengali manuscripts. Actually my interest in the cover design, illustrations and binding of a printed book was created by my interest in the decorations of manuscript-books.

One of the big books that I acquired in my late high school days was John Drinkwater's *The Outline of Literature.* But at that time I had no eye for the few reproductions of manuscript-book illustrations it contained. I turned to them more than 10 years later after seeing the illustrations in Dinesh Chandra's work. I did admire the wonderful example of the illuminated manuscript of the Offices of the Virgin reproduced in the first volume of Drinkwater's book which also includes a facsimile of the illuminated papyrus inscribed with the hieroglyphic text of the Book of the Dead which is called the world's oldest book.

It was at the Bodleian that I first saw how beautifully the medieval bookbinders of Europe attired books and when I particularly admired the very elegant garment of a Latin book the very knowledgeable head of the Manuscript Division of the library told me that Cassiodorus, the sixth century Italian monk and librarian, asked his binders to find what he called proper "wedding garments for the heavenly feast". The illuminated manuscripts of the Bodleian attracted me so much that in my brief hours of

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furtive reading I browsed on Falkner Madan's Books in Manuscript and J.A. Herbert's Illuminated Manuscripts obviously with no idea of mastering their material. If my memory is not failing at this distance of time I saw in either of these books a picture of Jean Mielot, the famous medieval scholar and calligrapher. The picture taken from a manuscript preserved in the Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris shows how books were produced until the invention of printing.

I did not have the courage to discuss these things with my tutor although she was then working on Milton's first illustrator and even showed me her own copy of Patrick Hume's edition of *Paradise Lost* published in 1695, I feared any reference to medieval illuminated manuscripts would annoy her as unpardonable truancy from my proper study in which I was very slow. Also I knew that I could not possibly speak on manuscripts with the measure of precision one normally expects in academic conversation at Oxford.

The question of my collecting some specimens of illuminated manuscripts did not just arise. The price of some of them in Sotheby's catalogues was beyond the means of an Indian Maharaja after what Ballavbhai Patel had done to him. So I thought of acquiring some rare illustrated printed books, but alas the oldest book I could buy, a Milton title published in 1676, did not contain a single illustration. Toland's Milton's Prose (1698) contained some but they were not striking in any sense. The picture of Charles I in my copy of Eikon Basilike did not appeal to me although I spent a good deal on this 17th century title. Actually one of the finest decorated printed books I could buy as a rather resourceless undergraduate at Oxford was Rabindranath Tagore's Fireflies with Boris Artzybasheff's drawings on every page. That sometimes printing itself may be so elegant that every page has the look of a piece of decorative art I could see in a little book containing Voltaire's essay on Milton printed in Baskerville types by the printer of the Cambridge University Press who very generously presented me with a copy of this precious publication intended for private circulation.

My interest in the art of the book was revived when some dire fate put me on a job which required me to be concerned with books and manuscripts. In the holdings of the organization where I had the guilty feeling of an intruder in a paradise of seasoned library scientists there were picturesque items and I thought great centres of Indian manuscript-books could come together to publish an illustrated history of the art of the book in India. Toby Falk and Mildred Archer's Indian Miniatures in the India Office Library published only last year, Indian Paintings: Mughal Rajput and a Sultanate Manuscript by Toby Falk *et al* (1978) and the Keir Collection: Islamic Painting and the Arts of the Book edited by B.W. Robinson and others in 1976 would only intensify our desire for a comprehensive collection although I could not think of one person who could do the job.

When a few days ago the chief of the British Council in Calcutta very kindly lent me his library's copy of Jeremiah P. Losty's beautifully produced 160-page *The Art of the Book In India*, I was amazed by the abundance of its illustrations and the thoroughness of the narrative. The book has been published on the occasion of the British Library's exhibition on The Art of the Book in India as part of the Festival of India. Mr Losty, Assistant Keeper in the Department of Oriental Manuscripts and Printed Book in British Library, has written copiously and competently on the British Library's collection of Indian Manuscripts, one of his other recent works being Krishna : A Hindu Vision of God.

Mr Losty has very appropriately presented the whole story of Indian miniatures in five sections. Early Manuscript Illuminations, Manuscript Illumination During the Delhi Sultanate, the Imperial Library of the Great Moghul, Delhi and the Provinces 1600-1850 and European Influences on the Manuscript Tradition. The introductory essay is at once scholarly and perceptive as a study of the various aspects of book-making in India from the earliest times to the middle of the 19th century. Of the 155 illustrations in the book, 38 are in colour and they reproduce some of the finest things in Indian miniature. The reproductions bring out the major arts of the book—calligraphy, illumination, that is, embellishments with abstract designs in gold and colours, and illustration, that is, the addition of figural paintings and binding.

As Mr Losty points out, "manuscripts dating from before 1,000 are pitifully few", but those which belong to the second millennium are indeed glories of Indian miniature. A striking example of them is presented in colour plate I—a Bodhisattva holding a lotus which is taken from a manuscript associated with the name of Ramapala and was copied early in the 12th century. One of the miniatures of the Akbar period illustrates a Persian translation of Baburnama and shows Babar visiting Hindu ascetics. Colour plate XXX is a magnificent picture representing ascetics, saints and angels surrounding the opening phrases of the Akbarnama in praise of Speech. A typical example of European influence on our manuscript tradition is a miniature taken from the manuscript of Gulzar-Nasim, a "masnavi" in Urdu, written in the thirties of the last century. The fairies in the picture standing at a bathing pool have unmistakable European features.

Courtesy: The Sunday Statesman.

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Latest Soviet Titles on Economics

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CURRENT PROBLEMS OF CONTEMPORARY CAPITALISM.
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On the basis of development of capitalism in the 1970s, the authors examine the theoretical concept of the current stage of the crisis of capitalism. Special attention is paid to economic aspects of the deepening crisis of the capitalist system in the 1970s, with specific emphasis having been laid on analysing the pressing problems of state-monopoly capitalism and the contradictions between the imperialist states and their implications at the present state of the general crisis of capitalism. The monetary and financial crisis experienced by capitalism in the 1970s is also dealt with in the book. The book is based on extensive statistical data.

E. Cherevik and Y. Shayrkov:

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V. S. Dadayan:

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Apart from his own models, the book includes a review of the history of mathematical economic modelling in the USSR.

The author skilfully combines fundamental analysis and lucid exposition, making the book useful for the general readers.

A.Y. Elganov:

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INDIA: PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPMENT.
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The economy of India, like that of other developing countries, is regarded by Soviet scholars as a multistructural dynamic system. In this context of great interest is the all-round analysis of interstructural connections, the study of integration processes both between various socio-economic structures and branches of the national economy. For India, whose economy, in the opinion of Soviet economists, is of a somewhat dual character, the overcoming of disunity between the traditional and modern sectors, the town and country, is a major precondition for accelerated economic growth.

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V. Malkevich:

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The subject of this monograph-East-West economic cooperation is highly topical and important. This monograph will be found extremely useful by readers in the West as well as in the developing countries concerned with the problems of establishing a new international economic order.

The author, Vladislav Malkevich, is an eminent Soviet specialist on matters of technological exchange, member of the Board of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade, Head of its Main Engineering and Technical Department. For many years he has been directly or indirectly connected with the drawing up of all the Soviet Union's agreements with other countries in the area of technological exchange.

THE SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL REVOLUTION AND THE CONTRADICTIONS OF CAPITALISM.
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The book is the outcome of an international theoretical conference on "The Scientific-Technological Revolution and the Capitalism at the Present Stage", held at the Institute of World Economy and International Relations, USSR Academy of Sciences, in May 1979. Papers were presented by Prominent Soviet scholars from various institutes of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Moscow and Leningrad universities and other institutions of higher-learning. Scholars from the socialist countries, representative of 28 Communist and Workers' Parties, and scholars from capitalist and developing countries took part in the conference. The papers included in this volume are of great interest to students of Marxist approach to today's major economic and political problems in the capitalist world.

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This is a critique of Non-Marxist economic theories, with a Marxist analysis of the essence and specific features of the present stage in the crisis of bourgeois political economy. Part one deals with the present stage of the traditional schools of Western economic thought. The authors consider the views of the leading representatives of these schools on current problems of capitalist economy.

Part two contains a critical analysis of new economic doctrines (US institutionalism, Perroux's "general theory", "post-industrial society", "managerial revolution", "human capital", radical political economy, and so on).

Vitaly Vygodsky:

THE ECONOMIC SUBSTANTIATION OF THE THEORY OF SOCIALISM.
Cloth, pp.280, Rs. 6.00

The author is a prominent Soviet economist who has written a number of works which have been published in many languages.

This book is an in-depth study in the sphere of the theory of scientific communism; it analyses the connection of Marxist-Leninist economic theory and present-day topical problems. Considerable attention is paid to the condition and struggle of the working class in the capitalist countries, to the substantiation of the inevitability of the socialist revolution and to scientific prognostication of communist society.

CMEA: INTERNATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF SOCIALIST INTEGRATION.

Practice Problems and Prospects of Socialism.
Cloth, pp.380, Rs. 5.00

This monograph, prepared by a group of researchers from Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the GDR, Hungary, Poland, and the USSR, has been jointly brought out by these countries publishing houses.

The contributors analyses the process of the development and improvement of economic co-operation among the CMEA member-countries, show the principal features of socialist economic integration against the background of contemporary development of the world economy, and describe the salient features of its current stage and its prospects of development.

A great deal of attention has been paid in this book to problems of peaceful coexistence and evolution of economic ties between the two world social system.

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD.
Paper, pp.115, Rs. 2.00

The universal interest in the events and processes under way in Asia, Africa and Latin America, and especially in the historical successes of the national-liberation struggle of the peoples of these continents, has been reflected in many publications brought out by the Editorial Board of "Social Sciences Today". However, for some time now, a need has been felt, as evidenced by our readers' letters for bringing out new publications giving the views of Soviet special on current aspects of life in the states that have freed themselves from colonial dependence.

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It is divided into two parts, each of 11 chapters. Each of these chapters is preceded by an abstract summarising the main points and the thrust of thinking of the author at successive points of time. The prologue highlights the significant benchmarks in planned development in India within the broader frame of international economic relations. In the epilogue the author looks ahead into the 1980s.

Primarily concerned with international economics, it is throughout informed by Indian insights, a rare intellectual effort not found elsewhere. Above all, it depicts step by step the unfinished struggle for change in the world economy, reflecting both the revolution of rising expectations and reality of international economic relations today.

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"Dedicating a book is like making love in public"

EDWIN McDOWELL

Since Arthur Hailey wouldn't dedicate a book to his wife, Sheila, she dedicated her own book, "I Married A Best Seller" thus: "To my husband, Arthur Hailey, in the faint hope that this will shame him into dedicating a book to me."

Years ago Arthur Hailey dedicated an original television play to his producer, but he had sworn off dedications by the time he began writing books. "I don't believe in them," he said recently. "I always told my wife that dedicating a book is like making love in public."

But Mr. Hailey, author of "Hotel", "Wheels" and half-a-dozen other big sellers, is one of the few naysayers. While book publishing has undergone convulsive changes in recent years, most authors still dedicate their literary efforts to spouses, relatives and friends.

There are exceptions, of course, James Herriot dedicated "All Things Wise and Wonderful" to his dogs, Hector and Dan. And years earlier, Zane Grey, who practised dentistry in Manhattan before turning to fiction, dedicated "Western Pacific" to "a single strand of iron wire."

But Mr. Herriot is a veterinarian, and Grey, who wrote 80 or more books, could afford to look outside his immediate circle of family and friends. By contrast, few authors write more than a couple of books, so it is hardly surprising that most dedicate them to the people closest to them.

And even prolific authors sometimes feel the need to express their appreciation more than once. Joyce Carol Oates, for example, has dedicated at least two books to her husband. "Them" and "The Assassins". And Irving Wallace, also prolific, has dedicated most of his books to his wife, children or parents.

"But twice I had other dedications" said Mr. Wallace. "The Plot" is dedicated 'To Three Loves Plus One, Sylvia, David, Amy and Paris.' And 'The Seven Minutes' is dedicated 'To Fanny, Constance, Molly, who made it possible, and to Sylvia, David, Amy, who approved." The first three women, Mr. Wallace explained, are not rivals for his affection, but Fanny Hilly, Constance Chatterly and Molly Bloom, leading characters from three once-banned novels that figure prominently in Mr. Wallace's novel about the publication of a 1930's pronographic classic that results in the arrest of a Los Angeles bookseller in the 1960's.

Dedications seem little affected by political or ideological distinctions. Years ago John F. Kennedy dedicated "Profiles in Courage" to his wife, and this year Henry A. Kissinger dedicated "Years of Upheaval" to his wife. (Mr. Kissinger's "White House Years," published in 1979, is dedicated to Nelson A. Rockefeller.) Even couples who write together dedicate together: Joan Gregory Didion dedicated "Play It as It Lays" to her husband, John Gregory Dunne, and he in turn included his wife in the dedication to "True Confessions."

Sweethearts Galore

Because time and circumstances sometimes prompt second thoughts, some writers reportedly have dedicated one book to one spouse and subsequent books to subsequent spouses. A veteran editor said that one of her authors changed wives—and dedications—between the hardcover and paperback versions of the same book. And a philandering author of a decade ago supposedly specialised in such flowery edications as "To My Beloved" or "For My One and Only", each sufficiently vague for the author to assure each of several women that the book was dedicated to her alone.

Saul Bellow ("The Adventures of Augie March") and William Styron ("Sophie's Choice") dedicated books to their fathers. J.D. Salinger dedicated his only novel ("The Catcher in the Rye") to his mother, and Thornton Wilder dedicated one of his earliest novels, "The Bridge of San Luis Rey", to his mother, and one of his last novels, "The Eighth Day," to his sister. Norman Mailer also dedicated his recent "Pieces and Pontifications" to his sister. John Cheever not only dedicated "The Wapshot Chronicle" to

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his mother with love, but also added his "best wishes to practically everybody else I know." Bette Bao Lord's novel "Spring Moon" is dedicated to her husband, his and her parents and her editor.

Henrich Boell's latest novel, "The Safety Net", is dedicated to his two sons, half the number of sons that John le Carre dedicated 'Smiley's People" to. Seven King's "Cujo," a best seller last year and newly published in paperback, is dedicated to "my brother, David, who held my hand crossing West Broad Street, and who taught me how to make skyhooks out of old coathangers".

To A Mother-in-Law

Jack Higgins's new novel "Touch the Devil," is dedicated to Margaret Hewitt, his mother-in-law. "She's a nice old lady who kept asking why hadn't I dedicated a book to her," Mr. Higgins explained during a recent visit to the United States. Since Arthur Hailey wouldn't dedicate a book to his wife, Sheila, she wrote her own book ("I Married a Best Seller") and, according to Mr. Hailey, dedicated it thus: "To my husband, Arthur Hailey, in the faint hope that this will shame him into dedicating a book to me. P.S. I'm not holding my breath."

Years ago some publishing houses frowned on authors' dedicating books to editors. Alfred Harcourt, for example, wouldn't allow the following dedication by Jack Kerouac:

Since Kindness be the
Venus-star of Friendship,
and that Bright Star
Doth light the Lowest Hill,
May Praise be Worthy
of the Highest Good,
To my Editor, Mentor and
Friend
Robert Giroux.

But Ernest Hemingway dedicated his "The Old Man and the Sea" to Charles Scribner, his publisher, and Maxwell Perkins, his editor. John Steinbeck dedicated "Travels With Charley" to Harold Guinzburg, founder of the Viking Press, and both Steinbeck (in "East of Eden") and Saul Bellow (in "Herzog") dedicated books to Pat Covici, a longtime Viking editor. Carlos Baker, editor of last year's "Ernest Hemingway: Selected Letters", dedicated that book to Charles Scribner Jr., "publisher, editor, friend." John Updike dedicated "Month of Sundays" to Judith Jones, an editor at Alfred A. Knopf, and Joyee Carol Oates dedicated her bestselling "Bellefleur" to the late Henry Robbins, her editor at E.P. Dutton.

The unofficial champion of book dedications may well be William Shawn, editor of **The New Yorker**. His name does not appear in the magazine, but it appears in the dedications of at least 39 books beginning with S.N. Behrman's "Duveen" in 1952, right up to Jervis Anderson's "This Was Harlem," 30 years later. In the interim, J.D. Salinger, Lillian Ross, John Updike, John McPhee, Ved Mehta and E.B. White all dedicated books to Mr. Shawn, while Whitney Balliett, Thomas Whiteside, Joseph Wechsberg and Mollie Panter-Downes each dedicated two books to Mr. Shawn. "Naturally, each time a writer compliments me in this way I feel honored," Mr. Shawn said.

A number of books have been dedicated to literary agents. Bernard Malamud's new novel, "God's Grace", is dedicated to the late Diarmuid Russell, a founder of the Russell & Volkening literary agency, and to Mr. Russell's widow, Rose. Ken Folleft dedicated "Triple" to Al Zuckerman. Andrew Greeley dedicated "The Cardinal Sins" to the late Hilda Lindley. And Norman Mailer remembered Scott Meredith in dedications for "The Executioner's Song" and "An American Dream." Mr. Mailer's 'Why Are We in Vietnam?", recently reprinted in trade paperback, is dedicated to five friends, including Norman Podhoretz, the editor, Cy Rembar, the literary lawyer, and Jose Torres, the boxer.

Most authors complain about lack of publicity for their books, but Mickey Spillane dedicated "The Girl Hunters" to Elliott Graham, former publicity director of E.P. Dutton.

Immortal Dedications

Some dedications have outlived their authors. Thomas McCormack, president of St. Martin's Press, remembers a book dedicated to the sheriff who threw the author in jail, thereby giving him time to write. Jack Geoghegan, who recently retired from William Morrow & Company, said, "I can't remember the author, but I remember reading something like, 'This book is dedicated to my spouse without whose constant interruption it would have been finished six months ago.'

In his book "The Literary Life and Other Curiosities," Robert Hendrickson notes that authors rarely if ever dedicate their books in order to flatter someone in a brazen appeal for patronage, as Horace, Virgil and Cicero did. But just in case such appeals might work, Mr. Hendrickson dedicated his book "To Their Grace, the Exxon Corporation."

Many books have been dedicated to other writers. Henry Miller's "Black Spring" was dedicated to Anais Nin. Sinclair Lewis dedicated "Elmer Gantry" to H.L. Mencken. C.S. Lewis dedicated "The Screwtape Letter's to J.R.R. Tolkien. Richard Kim's novel "The Martyred" is dedicated to Albert Camus. Walke Percy dedicated "Love Among the Ruins" to Shelby Foote, the novelist, Civil War historian and fellow Mississippian. The mystery writer John Gardner, heir to the James Bond books, dedicated 'License Renewed," the first of his books

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on the super-hero 007. "In Memory of Ian Lancaster Fleming." Morris Philipson, director of the University of Chicago Press, dedicated his novel "The Wallpaper Fox" to Iris Murdoch. When he presented her with the book, Miss Murdoch, who was at that time the author of 22 books, read the dedication and said. 'Its so nice to see one's name in print."

Curtain-Raisers

Even movie directors have not been overlooked, Carlos Fuentes's recent "Distant Relations" is dedicated to the Spanish-born motion-picture director Luis Bunuel. Even as far back as 35 years ago, Ireland's feisty Liam O'Flaherty dedicated "Famine" to John Ford, who made a movie of O'Flaherty's "The Informer."

On the assumption that it would be superfluous to spell out the obvious, it is simply understood that the dedication "For Delmore and Philip" in William Barrett's recent "The Truants" means Delmore Schwartz, the late poet, and Philip Rahy, late founder and co-editor of the Partisan Review, Initials, however, pose a somewhat tougher problem for the reader, as, for example, Graham Greene's dedication of "The Heart of the Matter" to "V.G., L.C.G. & F.C.G."

William F. Buckley Jr. dedicated his recent novel, "Marco Polo, If You Can," to Hugh Kenner, the literary critic. "I've known him for a long time," said Mr. Buckley. "I was the best man at his wedding. I have tremendous respect for him." Mr. Kenner, pleased by the gesture, said it was the first novel dedicated to him, although two collections of essays have been dedicated to him, including a recent collection by the critic Guy Davenport. Meanwhile, D. Keith Mano's recent novel, "Take Five," is dedicated to Mr. Buckley, and Mr. Buckley's son Christopher dedicated his recent "Steaming to Bamboola," an account of life on a tramp steamer, to the late John Lennon, "son of a merchant seaman."

Some dedications tend to be sweeping, as for example in James Clavell's "Noble House," a novel about Hong Kong, which is dedicated thus: "I would like to offer this work as a tribute to her Britannic Majesty, Elizabeth II, to the people of Her Crown Colony of Hong Kong—and perdition to their enemies." The coming novel "Sassafrass, Cypress & Indigo" by Ntozake Shange is dedicated "to all women in struggle."

Some dedications are apparently intended to be understood only after reading the book. Thus, John Toland's recent "Infamy: Pearl Harbor and Its Aftermath" is dedicated "To the victims of Pearl Harbor." The book contends that the Administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt knew in advance about plans for the Japanese attack on the American naval base on Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

Perhaps the last word in dedications belongs to Dwight Macdonald, who edited "Parodies," a volume published in 1960. In it he wrote: "To my dear sons Michael and Nicholas without whose school bills this anthology would not have been made."

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A Romantic, Progressive Punjabi Poet

S.N. SEWAK

Professor Mohan Singh (1905-1978) was a versatile genius. He was a poet, story-writer, essayist, and journalist besides being an eminent teacher of Persian, Urdu, and Punjabi. He is popularly known as a romantic and progressive poet who stood resolutely for equality, justice and socialism. He won a number of national and international awards including the Sahitya Akademi award for his *Wadda Vela* in 1968, the Soviet Land Nehru award for *Jai Mir* in 1968, the Punjab Government's award for *Jandre* and the Punjabi University award for *Nanakayan* in 1972.

Mohan Singh published about a dozen collections of poems in Punjabi. He also translated Edwin Arnold's classic *The Light of Asia* and himself wrote an epic, *Nanakayan*, about the life of Guru Nanak.

Basically a romanticist and a humanist Mohan Singh was a bard of beauty like Keats, a social revolutionary like Shelley, and a lover of nature like Wordsworth. Like Byron's *Childe-Herald's Pilgrimage*, his earliest collection of romantic poems, *Save Pattar*, made him famous overnight. In fact, most people still know him as the author of *Save Pattar*, and editor of *Panj Dariya*.

Mohan Singh's immortal poem '*Kuri Pothohar Di*' reminds us of Wordsworth's 'The Solitary Reaper'. The picture of the girl carrying a bushel of grass on her head and helping the poet cross a difficult brook by letting him hold her finger is a captivating image. He can never forget her gentle touch and the very thought of the girl fills him with pleasure and helps him come out of the flood of worry and misery whenever he is in a depressed mood. There is a romantic strain in all his poems. He creates a unique imagery which lends an abiding wealth of beauty to his poetry.

The progressive movement had exercised great influence on poets, playwrights, novelists and intellectuals in India. The first conference of the Progressive Writers' Association was held in Lucknow in 1936. The provincial conference of the Punjab PWA was held at the historic Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar, in 1937. This movement had a great impact on Mohan Singh's poetry and he began to harness romantic expression for progressive themes. The struggle for independence also stirred his consciousness. He identified slavery as a youthful fairy dressed in gold trying to ensnare the political revolutionary in *Maen Nahin Rehna Tere Gran*'. This evidently shows that he was influenced by Keats' '*La Belle Dame Sans Merci*'.

After World War II and soon after independence, a peace movement was launched by the Communist Party of India, Mohan Singh had already become a whole-time member of the party. He wrote poems of peace, progress and socialistic thought. Also poems on socio-political exploitation. He fought for the down-trodden in his own creative way.

Modernity has been expressed in India in two ways—English education and Marxist ideology. Mohan Singh came under the influence of both. His romantic temper was shaped by his study of English romantic poets while his humanistic outlook and socialist sympathies were an outcome of his study of Marxism and his alignment with the communist movement.

Despite these influences, however, Mohan Singh was highly individualistic in many ways. His love-poems are marked by an intense Passion. He wants a socialistic pattern of society only for the sake of personal fulfilment.

Mohan Singh was a symbol of national consciousness. He stood above distinctions of caste, creed, colour, socio-economic status, and narrow regional boundaries. In '*Aoa Hindiya*', he urges the people to join in a dance of love so that their dream of a happy and prosperous India may come true. He was indeed a national poet whose works merit translation in other Indian languages. Punjabis are justly proud of this brilliant star on the literary horizon.

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FEDERATION NEWS

NINTH AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN BOOK PRODUCTION, 1982

It is proposed to give Awards for Excellence in Book Production for the ninth time this year. Such Awards were last given in February 1982 during the World Book Fair held in New Delhi to publishers of books not only in English and Hindi but in other Indian languages as well.

The Awards for this year will be given for books produced in India from 1 January to 31 December 1982 in three separate groups, namely, (i) Books in English (ii) Books in Hindi and (iii) Books in regional languages, each in the following categories :

(1) Art books and pictorial books involving reproduction of halftone illustrations
(2) Textbooks—schools
(3) Textbooks—colleges
(4) Children's books
(5) Scientific and technical books
(6) Medical and legal books
(7) Paperbacks
(8) General Books
(9) Reprints
(10) Jackets
(11) Catalogues-unpriced promotional ones
(12) Book posters
(13) Brochure
(14) Any other publicity material

Besides books selected for the first and second awards and certificates of merit, a select list of titles in each category will also be prepared. The list will include titles which do not earn any award but which are sufficiently well produced. This short select list will also be exhibited at the award giving ceremomy.

A committee of Judges consisting of the following will be formed for the selection of the titles to be given awards/certificates.

(1) A nominee of All India Federation of Master Printers.
(2) A nominee of the Ministry of Education and Culture, Government of India.
(3) A nominee of the College of Arts, New Delhi.
(4) A nominee of Authors Guild of India.
(5) A nominee of the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity, Government of India, Ministry of I and B.
(6) A nominee of the Federation of Indian Publishers.

The books not selected for any of the awards can be taken back by the publishers concerned by making their own arrangements for collecting these from the Federation office. The books for which awards/certificates are given will be retained by the Federation. The awards will be confined only to members of the Federation and of its affiliated associations.

While a sufficient number of books in English have been received in the past for consideration for awards, entries in respect of Hindi and regional languages were not sufficient. Publishers in these languages are, therefore, specially requested to ensure that they send sufficient number of titles so that a good number of awards/certificates could be earned by titles brought out in languages other than English.

Publishers are requested kindly to send their titles for consideration so as to reach the Executive Secretary, Federation of Indian Publishers, Federation House, 18/1-C, Institutional Area, JNU Road, New Delhi-110067, by Saturday, 22 January 1983. Titles in languages other than English should be accompanied by typed lists in Roman Script indicating also the category in each case.

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NEWS & EVENTS

SLOVAK PUBLISHING HOUSES TO PUBLISH 3,000 BOOKS

Bratislava: Slovak publishing houses are preparing for publication next year over 3,000 titles in about 26 million copies, the majority being Slovak works and one-third of total publications being textbooks. Slovak is the language of the Slovak Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia with a little more than 5 million population.

Prevailing in translated literature are books by authors from the USSR and other socialist countries. A selection of works by Honore de Balzac and Virginia Woolf is being prepared, as well as new publications of the works by classics of western literature, e.g. Byron, Corbiere, Homer, Stendhal, Baroja, Lagerloef, and by contemporary authors such as Clavell, Druan, Malaparte, O'hara and others.

In the past few years, exports of Slovak non-periodical literature to socialist and non-socialist countries increased by more than 40 per cent, the major customers being the USSR, Hungary, West Germany, Netherlands, Britain, Belgium, Finland, Sweden and Denmark.

Deserving attention among exported publications is for example the "Atlas of Topographical Anatomy of Animals", printed in 12 languages, which has been bought by the United States, Canada, Spain, Yugoslavia and the USSR.

PM RELEASES BOOK

The Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, released a book on Monday recording the heroic deeds of ten eminent leaders of the freedom movement.

The personalities the book deals with are Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Lala Lajpat Rai, Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Patel, Rajagopalachari, Abul Kalam Azad, Jawaharlal Nehru, B. R. Ambedkar, and Subhash Chandra Bose.

The book's authors are a husband-wife team—B.K. and Shashi Ahluwalia. Titled 'Architects of Swaraj' the book puts into perspective the dynamic leadership of these people against the might of colonial rule.

BOOK PRESENTED TO CULTURAL BODY

Mr Des Raj Sharma, popularly known as 'Kanwal', presented a copy of his book Phool Khile Hain' in Urdu to the National Cultural Organisation. Mr N P. Seshadri, secretary of the organisation, who received the book, said that the book would be released on the occasion of the Tansen Festival later this month by Ustad Bismillah Khan.

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Sirkhazi S. Govindarajan, the noted vocalist, presented a set of his devotional records to Mr Seshadri.

NIA AWARD FOR N. R. CHANDRAN AND KHUSHWANT SINGH

Shri N.R. Chandran, General Manager of Press Trust of India, and Shri Khushwant Singh, Editor of "The Hindustan Times" have been selected for the 'Man of International Media award' by the National Integration Assembly.

Shri Chandran has been conferred the award for his contribution to PTI's expansion and promotion of the news from non-aligned world.

Shri Khushwant Singh has been chosen for his scholarly translations of important Urdu poetry for the benefit of English speaking people and for his efforts to bring India and Pakistan on a common platform through his writings, according to a NIA press release.

The NIA jury chose for the 'Man of the National Media Award.' Shri Aroon Purie, Editor of "India Today", Shri M.J. Akbar, Editor of "The Telegraph," and Shri Gurudev Gupta, Editor of the Hindi daily "Dainik Jagaran."

BOOK PIRACY

Dr S. Gopal Mr. Shrikant Verma, Mrs. Anita Desai, Professor Sukhmoy Chakravarty, Dr V.V. John, among others, said in a letter addressed to the Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi that book piracy had become widespread. They pointed out in their letter that the Indian Copyright Act of 1957 was inadequate to protect the interests of author or publisher, because book piracy was not treated as a cognizable offence. (See our October Editorial 'Book Piracy').

SIXTH CONGRESS OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN LIBRARIES, MAY-JUNE, 1983

The sixth Congress of Southeast Asian Libraries (CONSAL VI) will be organised in Singapore from 30 May to 3 June 1983. The Organisers of CONSAL VI also plan to hold an Exhibition of Library material and equipment to coincide with the Congress. All those interested in participating in the Exhibition may contact Mr R. Ramachandran, Chairman, CONSAL VI Exhibition Committee, C/o National Library, Stamford Road, Singapore-0617.

KARNATAKA BOOK FESTIVAL, MYSORE—JANUARY 1983.

The NBT is organising the Festival at Mysore from 2-12 January 1983 on the occasion of the first World Kannada Conference. The folder containing terms and conditions will be issued shortly by the Trust. In the meantime the publishers desiring to participate may intimate their requirements of stands to Shri M.L. Munshi, Deputy Director (Exhibition), National Book Trust, A-5, Green Park, New Delhi—110 016.

NATIONAL BOOKFAIR, CHANDIGARH FEBRUARY 1983—NATIONAL BOOK EXHIBIT

The NBT is organising 11th National Book Fair which will take place in Chandigarh from 25 February to 7 March 1983. A major feature of the fair will be a collective display of selected books on a wide variety of subjects in English and Indian languages published since January 1981.

Publishers are invited to send us a copy each of their publications for selection for the National Exhibit as early as possible. The last date for receipt of book is 31 December 1982.

The parcels should be marked to : Deputy Director (Exhibition), National Book Trust, India, A-5 Green Park, New Delhi-110016.

A CORRECTION

In the International Number 1982, on the second cover the name of S. Chand & Company Ltd. was wrongly printed as S. Chand & Company Pvt. Ltd. The mistake is very much regretted.

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Travel guide—North India: The bargain discovery travel of 1980's. Calcutta, Rupa and Co., 1982, Rs 12

AGRICULTURE

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Measuring the condition of India's poor : The physical quality of life index. New Delhi, Promilla and Co., 1982, ix+100p. Rs 80

NANDPURKAR, G.G.
Small farmers : A study on their entrepreneurial behaviour. New Delhi, Metropolitan, 1982, xv+112p. Rs 60

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Is black beautiful or is it beautiful only when it has a political potency in posters or apartheid issues ? Or is black really an interior darkness in the mind of the perceiver ? These are some of the many questions that re-bound on their own reflexes in a numb society. They torment the consciousness of Bhuma, an intelligent, attractive—but dark—young woman.

Marriage for Bhuma backfires when her husband, intimidated by her vibrant personality, asserts himself by deriding her dark complexion and turns her out. Outside marriage Bhuma develops into an educated, independent woman who meets her match in Ramachandran, a dynamic news-editor. Their uneasy relationship generates an intensity that is equally unbearable for the characters and the readers of the novel.

MRITYUNJAY : A Novel in Assamese,—B.K. Bhattacharyya, Translated into English by D.N. Bezboruah, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 120

Mrityunjay is the recipient of the prestigious Jnanpith Award—the highest literary honour to be awarded in India. Written by Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya in Assamese, the novel is now being presented in English by D.N. Bezboruah, who has done a superb job at capturing the essence of the original in his translation.

RUSTLING OF MANY WINDS, by Romen Basu, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 60

Romen Basu's latest book is a collection of short stories—his second. Those readers who know him only as a novelist may be surprised at the wide range of subjects covered in his short stories. His keen ear for dialogues and his intuitive grasp of different cultures, makes his characters spring to life, whether the setting is in a Bengali village, a summer home in upstate New York or a bachelor's "pad" in the glittering urban environment of Rio de Janeiro.

His subtle brand of humour is unmistakable. Yet, even as one laughs at the foibles of his characters, one appreciates the gentleness and humanity that informs his vision. This is the work of a man who has travelled the world and assessed its common humanity in terms of the logic and grace of his own convictions.

ASURAVITHU, M.T. by Vasudevan Nair, Kerala Sahitya Akademi, Trichur, 1981, Rs 30

This is the story of Govindan Kuttu a man trapped by the Social aspirations of his family and the traditional rigidities of his milieu.

His attempt to break these bonds lead him to conversion from religion to another conflict with family and friends, and finally, a lonely confrontation of himself.

HYMNS TO THE DANCING SIVA : A Study of Menikkavacakar's Tiruvancakam, Glenn E. Yocum, Heritage Publishers, 1982, Rs 75

This text is historically interesting because in it one can detect literary and religious influences from the pre-sanskritic cankam period of Tamil literature (Ca 100-300 A.D.) in addition to Brahmanical concepts.

The aim of this study of the Tiruvancakam is not only to locate Manikkavackar in the history of the Hindu Tradition but to understand him as a religious man, to enter empathetically into his world so that the religious intent of his thought and practice might be discerned.

What emerges from the Tiruvacakam's poetry is a deeply personal expression of the poet's transformation from a state of bondage to karma, ego, and social convention to a participation in the freedom of Siva's dancing, sporting "madness" accomplished though the ecstatic "melting" of devotional love.

FOLK TALES OF MAURITIUS, by Pahlad Ramsurrun, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 20

The folk tales of a country more than anything else, reflect the genre of its people, their beliefs, customs, manners, attitudes and way of life. This is the twelfth volume in the series of Folk Tales of the World.

This volume which is written by a world known writer contains a collection of legends, folk tales, folk songs and folk sayings in the creole dialect with French text. It will not only attract children but also every person who is interested in reading.

TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES, Thomas Hardy, Rupa & Co., 1982, Rs 20

Thomas Hardy's Tess of the d'Urbervilles has become a modern classic. In it Hardy concerned himself with the question of fate and its influence upon the lives of most people. If Tess's father had not learned that he was a d'Urberville if Angel had found the letter Tess slipped under the door, her life would have been much different. But fate ruled that these things were to happen, and so determined the

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course of Tess's life Hardy called Tess a pure girl, and so she was, he believed that she was not responsible for the actions, and he forces us to agree with him.

INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH, by K.R. Srinivasa Iyengar, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 200

The present volume is an exercise, both in literary and cultural history. Beginning with the work of pioneers like Rammohan Roy, the survey dwells in some details on the achievements of such makers of modern India as Derozio, Toru Dutt, Rabindra Nath Tagore, Sri Aurobindo, Mahatma Gandhi, Sarojini Naidu and Jawaharlal Nehru and adequately covers the works of contemporaries like Nirad C. Chaudhuri, R.K. Narayan, Raja Rao, Kamala Markandaya, Dom Moraes, Anita Desai, Ved Mehta, Arun Joshi and others.

SOCIOLOGY OF NAMES AND NICKNAMES OF INDIA—with special reference to Kashmir by R.K. Kaul, 1982, Rs 75

Study of Indic names is full of fascination for a zealous investigator. The convention of bestowing names in India has its roots in remote past. Its study is inextricably confused by considerations of race and caste.

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ESSAYS ON SOCIO-CULTURAL PROBLEMS by K. Balan, The Indian Publications, 1982, Rs 30

Intended for the general reader, this book attempts to provide an account of the trends in various socio-cultural problems which weaken the "will" of the people thereby endangering the establishment of a healthy democratic society. The titles of the chapters in the book viz. population control, problems from an unplanned family, child welfare, problems of discarded human beings, sociological aspects of diseases, caste system from social perspective, women and society, public involvement in social welfare etc. give a clear exposition of its immense social value in the present day society, which is caught in the cobwebs of superstitions and prejudices. In a Welfare State where the welfare of the individual is the responsibility of all, it is imperative that every citizen should have a first hand knowledge of the socio-cultural problems in the society. His understanding the problems will help him to play an instrumental role in solving them and bringing about the desired social change and social development. In this light, the book is expected to be a friend, philospher and guide to the general public.

TODOR ZHIVKOV—Selected Works, People's Publishing House (P) Ltd., 1982, Rs 15

Comrade Todor Zhivkov, General Secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party and President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria is an acknowledged statesman, a leader of the international communist movement, a renowned Marxist-Leninist, one of the most outstanding world leaders and a friend of India. He has been leading his country and his Party from success to success. An inheritor of the glorious traditions set by outstanding leaders like Comrade Georgi Dimitrov, Comrade Zhivkov by his contributions and works has enriched the traditions of the Bulgarian communists. As a staunch Marxist-Leninist and proletarian internationalist his tireless efforts for the cohesion and unity of the world communist movement have been widely noted. Under his leadership Bulgaria has consolidated its position from an agrarian country to an industrialised one. Bulgaria is building developed socialism on way to communism. It is playing its due role—political, economic and otherwise—as a member of the world socialist community. Comrade Zhivkov's contributions in the struggle for peace, his initiative to declare the Balkans as a zone of peace, his endeavours in strengthening detente and last but not the least his keen personal attention in developing a useful and varted Indo-Bulgarian relationship are well known.

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November 1982

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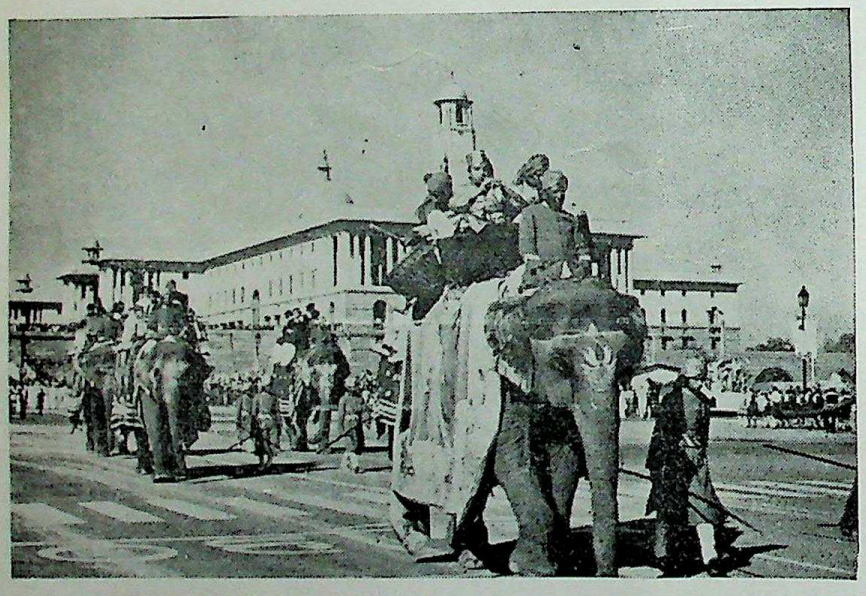

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Vol. XXVII No. 2 *November 1982*

INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY

Book Production and Distribution Journal

Editor-in-Chief
O.P. GHAI

Advertising Director
S.K. GHAI

Production Incharge
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Monthly Listing Editor
KRISHAN GOPAL

INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY
is published monthly by Sterling Publishers Pvt Ltd., L-10, Green Park Extension, New Delhi 110016.

Advertising & Subscription Agents

JAPAN
Mr. Warren E. Ball
Intercontinental Marketing Corp.
No 5, Work Building
1-19-8, Kakigarcho Nihonbashi
Chuoku Tokyo Japan 103
Tel: 03-661-8373

U.K.
Mr Anand Kumria
Independent Publishing Co. Ltd.
38 Kennington Lane
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Tel: (01) 735 2101

Subscription Rates

	Indian	*Foreign*	
	Rs	*$*	*£*
One Year	*50.00*	*12.50*	*7.00*
Two Years	*80.00*	*20.00*	*10.00*
Three Years	*120.00*	*30.00*	*15.00*

Printed and published by Shri O.P. Ghai at Sterling Printers, L-11, Green Park Ext.,

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CONTENTS

INDO-FRENCH BOOK EXCHANGES—A BEGINNING 5
—Abul Hasan

INAUGURATION OF FRENCH BOOK CENTRE IN DELHI 10

READ YOUR WAY UP THE SINGAPORE STYLE 11
—Vijay C. Katkar

PUBLISHING HIGHER EDUCATIONAL JOURNALS 15
—Taj Rawat

GABRIEL GARCIA MARQUEZ— A Profile 17

THE BOOK PUBLISHING INDUSTRY IN SRI LANKA FROM 1965 to 1980 19

FEDERATION NEWS 21

NEWS & EVENTS 22

MONTHLY LISTING 25

BOOK REVIEWS 37

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Indo-French Book Exchanges--A Beginning

*ABUL HASAN**

Item I-B 5 of the Cultural Exchange Programme between India and France for the year 1982-83 reads as follows:—

> "Both sides will facilitate contacts and exchange of books/publications and information between national organisations of book publishers in either country and for this purpose, both sides may exchange visits of a delegation of 2-3 publishers from each country for a period up to one month for discussions, visits and exchange of experience".

In implementation of this item a delegation of Indian publishers consisting of the following visited France between 13th and 22nd October, 1982:—

Shri Vishwanath,
Chairman,
Vision Books Pvt. Ltd.,
New Delhi.
Representative—Federation of Indian Publishers.

Shri Sunil Sachdev,
Director,
M/s Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd.,
New Delhi.

Representative—Federation of Publishers and Booksellers Associations in India.

Shri Abul Hasan,
Special Officer (Book Promotion),
Ministry of Education & Culture,
New Delhi.
Government of India,
Liaison Officer.

Growing Use of English

While France is basically a mono-lingual country and French is the main language of use in administration, commerce and education, English occupies an important place in the country particularly after the Second World War. Over the last two decades France has been playing a leading role in international trade and in the development of new technologies resulting in a new awareness and acceptance of the role of English as an important international link language. There seems to be an expanding market for English language books in France.

The main reason why the demand for English books will continue to grow in France is the desire of an increasing number of French people to learn English. The knowledge of English is now regarded as essential in industry and commerce as well as in education and administration. Many French companies are devoting a proportion of their turnover to further education programmes for their employees and the overwhelming demand is for English courses. In those areas where advance research work can gain international distribution only in English, French scholars are writing papers in English. They are now beginning to perceive the English language as a means by which their work can become known to the world outside France or French-speaking countries. The French scholars are showing greater interest in obtaining English books and now seem to be much less restricted by linguistic or cultural barriers.

Although there is very little English taught in pre-primary and primary schools in France, a foreign language becomes obligatory in the secondary school system as well as at the university level. It is estimated that at the secondary school and higher education levels 80 to 90 per cent of the pupils opt for the study of English as a foreign language.

The Book Scene in France

The book publishing industry is well-organised in France. With an average production of 30,000 titles per year, France is among the six largest book producing countries of the world. Literary works occupy almost one-third of the total book production followed by juvenile literature and humanities. Literature also occupies the highest place both in the matter of translation from French into foreign languages and *vice-versa*. As far as print-runs are concerned, the highest number is that of encyclopaediae and dictionaries followed by literature and school books. The highest turnover of the French book trade is again accounted for by literature (about 25 per cent) followed by encyclopaediae, dictionaries and school books. As far as foreign trade in books is concerned the total value of books imported in 1978 into France other than books in French, was about $ 20 million, the UK and USA being the largest suppliers with about 25 per cent and 21 per cent of the share respectively. As far as India is concerned, the total value of exports of publications to France was Rs 2,82,751 and the value of imports from France was Rs 7,13,274 in 1979-80.

Delegation's Itinerary

Since this was the first visit of an Indian delegation of publishers to France, the objective of the visit

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was, as indicated under item I-B 5, to facilitate and exchange publications and information between the national organisations of book publishers. There was lot of information gap about the potential of one another's books that could be used in the other country. Apart from translating other's books in the language(s) of the user country for which there appears to be a maximum scope, possibilities were to be explored for the import and export of books in original languages, publication of co-editions of books and utilisation of printing capacity for the mutual benefit of both countries. The whole approach was to be broad-based and made with a national angle. Once the horizon was clear and areas of mutual collaboration identified, the individual publishers/booksellers could negotiate terms directly with their counterparts in the other country for specific titles.

The programmes of visit of the delegation was drawn up by the Ministry of External Relations of France (Director-General for Cultural, Scientific and Technical Relations). The delegation visited large and medium size publishers and also local booksellers. Besides, the concerned Ministries of the French Government, some professional organisations of the French book industry and non-commercial organisations were also visited.

Although most of the book publishing activities in France are concentrated in Paris it was considered desirable to make a visit to some provincial publishers also. Hence a day time visit was arranged to *Editions Privat* at Toulouse which is more than a small-size publishing and bookselling organisation in south of France.

Professional Associations

It may be worth mentioning some of the activities of the professional associations visited by the delegation. The most important professional associations of the book industry in France are—the *Cercle de La Librairie* and *Syndicat National de l'Edition*. The *Cercle* is stated to be France's great umbrella organisation run jointly by different professions of the book industry viz. publishers, booksellers, printers, paper manufacturers etc. It provides a number of essential services to its members and general public and produces bibliographical information like "Books in Print". It is a kind of National Book Development Council of France, though it is run entirely by the private sector.

A meeting of the delegation was fixed with the other body, viz. *Syndicat National de l'Edition* which is a professional association of French publishers. It represents 400 regular members who are large or medium-size publishers dealing with special fields of publishing like medical books, technical books, text books, children books etc. The *Syndicat* also advises 600 to 700 small publishers who are not its regular members. The *Syndicat* undertakes research on subjects related to the book trade and has a number of committees and councils on different aspects such as copyright, export promotion. It is also a member of the International Publishers Assotion.

Another professional association that was visited by the delegation was UDEF-Export (*Union D'Editours Francais Exportateurs*). About 100 medium and small size publishers specialising in social sciences, poetry, religion, sports etc. are members of this Union. The main activity of the Union is to help distributing the books of their members at home and abroad. As such the Union is interested in exporting French books to India.

There are several other big and small professional associations related to the French book industry e.g. Syndicates and Associations of libraries, booksellers, importers and exporters and those concerned with the French literature, documentation, public relations etc.

Whlie translation seems to be the main area of collaboration between India and France in the field of publishing, there are many other aspects which came to light during the visit of the Indian delegation, which also offer scope of bilateral collaboration viz. publicity, publishing and printing and import and export. All these aspects have been dealt with separately in the following paragraphs.

Publicity and Promotion

As pointed out earlier, there is a lot of information gap about the books produced in either country and therefore their potential for each other. There is a lot of scope of French books for the teaching of French language in India. Translation of French titles especially at the higher level may also be useful in not only scientific and technical disciplines but also in humanities and literature. A large number of periodicals in technical fields are being published in France mostly in French but also in English, some of which could be used in India with advantage.

As far as Indian books are concerned, there is obviously a good scope for our books on typically Indian or oriental subjects like culture, fine arts, religion, yoga etc. The French reader is also having a growing interest in our literature, and our outstanding fiction both in English and Indian languages could be translated into French. There is also a growing interest of French tourists in India and there is a dearth of tourist literature about India in France.

During the course of the visit of the delegation, besides specimen copies of some of our books a lot

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of publicity and information literature was distributed to the French book industry personnel. It included the latest annotated catalogue of Indian books 1979-81 published by the National Book Trust, the latest issue of the quarterly journal 'Recent Indian Books', and the folder 'Indian Books in a World Market'. The folder was also handed over to the Indian Embassy for being translated into French and published in the monthly journal brought out by the Indian Embassy. The French side also handed over to the Indian delegation lot of information material (mostly in French) concerning the activities of French publishers and select lists of titles published in France. There are many book trade journals and reference books published in France which provide latest information about the publishing activity in France.

There is need for extensive publicity of the book publishing activity of the other country on either side. As far as France is concerned a French Book Centre has been opened in New Delhi and will be inaugurated shortly on the occasion of the French President's visit to New Delhi. France also participates in the World Book Fairs being organised by the National Book Trust. Consideration may be given to the opening of an Indian book centre in Paris and organisation of special exhibitions of Indian books in France in collaboration with the Indian Embassy. The private sector on either side may also exchange catalogues, book trade journals and other reference material for one another's information.

Translation

Translation offers maximum scope for the publishers of the two countries. As far as Indian books are concerned, the French publishers have shown considerable interest in translating Indian books on fiction, modern literary works, apart from the traditional Indian subjects. One of the well known publishers of France, *Flammarion* are already doing translation of *Mahabharata* and are interested in translating Indian books on our culture, and civilization. Another publisher, *Seuil* wants to do a book on Nepal and is also interested in publishing informative literature for French tourists visiting India. There are many universities in France with Chairs relating to Indian studies who may want to use Indian books on current political and economic matters. Some publishers may like to publish bilingual dictionaries (French-Hindi and other Indian languages). Although the French readers have been rather traditional people who would like to move securely within the broad parameter of their own culture, there is an increasing desire to read the oriental literature on the abovementioned subjects specially if it is available in their own language.

So far as French books are concerned we can translate, with adaptation where necessary, French books for the higher level of education specially in scientific and technical fields and also reference books and encyclopaediae on special subjects for which France is well known. Our translation can either be in English or in Indian languages. Many French publishers are interested in reaching Asian and African markets through India, for apart from English in which our publishing is very strong, many of our languages are used in other countries e.g. Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Bengali etc. Translation rights for many French titles have already been granted to British publishers with whom the French publishers would like us to get in touch for reprinting those English translations in India.

Before the delegation left for France, an agreement had been reached between India and France to undertake translation of the classical and contemporary literature and works in Social Sciences, in one another's languages. Indeed there is a scheme being operated by the French Embassy in New Delhi under which a subsidy exists for the translation of French books into Indian languages. It is understood that the Ministry of Culture of France also provides subsidy for translation of French books. The National Art Centre of France is stated to provide assistance for the translation of foreign works in French language. Since these subsidy programmes are not well known, there is need for publicising widely the details of these schemes for the benefit of publishers on both sides.

Since Indo-French collaboration in publishing is a new endeavour, the Indian delegation felt that in addition to subsidy for translations it would be necessary to provide financial assistance towards the cost of production of books atleast in India. Subsidy on production is considered necessary atleast initially to break a new ground and to reduce the price to the Indian reader whose purchasing power is low. An important step in undertaking translations would be to identify the titles which are worthy of translation. Some of them may be commercially viable, while others may be desirable from cultural angle. The Indian Embassy in France, in an *Aide Memoire* sent to the French Ministry of Culture recently, has *inter-alia* included a small list of titles which could be translated into one another's language. This is a good beginning and the list could be expanded in consultation with knowledgeable people on both sides. For this purpose a working group may be set up on both sides to prepare the list of suitable titles and work out other details. Later, a joint group can meet to monitor the whole programme and review it

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from time to time.

Co-publishing and Printing

Almost all the books published in France are printed in France. However, a few of the French books relating to the learning of the French language are printed in India hrough *Alliance Francaise*. Since the cost of printing in France is very high French publishers are interested in collaboration with Indian publishers relating to co-editions of certain types of books in English which could be published by an Indian counterpart for local consumption as well as export to Asian and African countries. Indeed many French publishers are having co-publication arrangements with publishers in Britain and other countries. Among those which were visited by the delegation, *Hachette*, *Larcusse*, *Flammarion*, *Bordas* and *Maison des Sciences de l'Homme* were operating co-publication programmes with foreign publishers.

There is considerable scope for co-editions in illustrated books. French publishers are sufficiently strong in editorial matters but have bottle-necks with illustrated books which are rather expensive because outstanding illustrators are few and expensive. Children's books and books on nature and animals and encyclopaediae offer a good scope for co-publication with French publishers. Opportunities for co-publication also exist in the field of dictionaries and quality art books.

Since the printing cost in France is high, the French publishers may be attracted to have their books printed in India atleast for export to Asian and African markets. One leading French publisher, *Bordas* has shown interest in meeting high quality Indian printers who could handle their printing jobs.

Import and Export

At present the quantum of international book trade with France is very small. However, the value of international trade in books could be increased manifold if adequate publicity and promotion efforts are made to remove the information gap about the types of books being published in one another's country and to identify the buyers.

As regards the sale of Indian books in France, the maximum scope is for English language books. There is a strong book-buying tradition among French readers whose purchasing power is high enough to absorb foreign books including books from India. Incidentally the sale of books in France is subject to Value Added Tax (VAT) @ 7%. The most effective promotion of Indian books would be the one done in collaboration with a local bookseller. This could be done through special mailings or special exhibitions of Indian books. There is an important wholesaler of English books in Paris viz. *Nouveau Quartier Latin*, 78 Blvd Saint-Michel, 75006 – Paris. They specialise in English books mostly paperbacks and children literature. Another important bookseller from our point of view is *L'Asiatheque*, 6 rue Christine, 75006 – Paris, who specialise in books emanating from Asia. The delegation had an interesting discussion with the latter in regard to the sale and publicity of Indian books in Paris. This firm is willing to organise a special exhibition of Indian books in Paris and has even offered to provide free space for the purpose. The firm was strongly of the opinion that apart from display of Indian books there should be proper arrangements for the sale of Indian titles at this exhibition.

Apart from Paris, the provincial market accounts for only a small fraction of English books. Most of their demands are met by the distributors and wholesalers in Paris. Only one provincial firm was visited by the delegation which was a medium size publishing and bookselling organisation viz. *Privat* in Toulouse. Most of the books handled by the firm were in French, although the firm showed interest in Indian books also especially on psychology and sociology.

As far as the import of French books into India is concerned, there appears to be some demand of French books in Pondicherry as well as in those universities where French is taught as a foreign language. There is again a lot of ignorance about the availability and the nature of French books, which will be removed to some extent by the opening of the French Book Centre in New Delhi. Many of the French publishers wanted to know the addresses of the Indian wholesalers and booksellers who would be interested in importing French or English books from France e.g. *Hachette*, *Bordas*, *Hatier*. The possibility of re-exporting these books from India to South East Asia and South Asia could also be explored. The main export promotion agency for French books is UDEF-Export which also participates in the World Book Fairs organised by the National Book Trust.

Follow-up Action

The first ever visit of an official delegation of Indian publishers to France has brought out many points on which action can be initiated on both sides. A delegation of French publishers is due to visit India shortly under the same programme on a reciprocal basis. It is hoped that the delegation will pick up the thread and have further discussions and exchange of ideas and information with the Indian book industry and its professional associations. While a long-term programme may be drawn up in the light of the findings of the two delegations, some follow-up action which needs to be

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taken immediately is indicated below:

1. A vigorous promotion campaign for Indian books be organised to bring our potential to the notice of French publishers and readers. It would be economic and practical to plan the organisation of exhibition of Indian books in Paris immediately after the Frankfurt Book Fair of 1983 from where Indian books could be diverted to Paris for the purpose. The Indian Embassy in Paris may be requested to do the necessary spade-work viz. arranging a site for the exhibition, preparing cost estimates, doing necessary advance publicity and so on. Some of the Indian publishers/booksellers may accompany the book exhibition to sell books and negotiate deals at the time of the exhibition;

2. In addition to the above, the Indian Embassy in Paris may consider organising displays of selected Indian books in prominent places in Paris. e.g. universities, commercial and cultural centres and Indian tourist office;

3. Select lists of French and Indian publishers and booksellers be drawn up by the professional association of the book industry on both sides indicating the firms who would be interested in translating and selling one another's books;

4. Suitable titles on either sides be identified which could be undertaken for translation/adaptation for publication in the other country. The lists prepared by the Indian Embassy may be taken as the starting point in this regard and developed in consultation with knowledgeable people. For this purpose a working group consisting of the representatives of the book industry and academic and cultural institutions be set up on either side. Later on a joint group can be constituted to meet periodically to monitor the programme and review it from time to time;

5. The opening of the French Book Centre is a welcome step to bring suitable books to the notice of Indian reader. This effort may be supplemented by larger participation of French publishers in the World Book Fair at New Delhi and frequent visits of the French book industry personnel to India;

6. Information regarding the subsidy available for translation of foreign books in France and French books in Indian languages be disseminated widely so that the Indian book industry avails itself of it wherever appropriate. Considerations may also be given to making subsidy available for the production of those translations which may not be commercially viable but have cultural potential;

7. The Federation of Master Printers of India may draw up a schedule of rates at which they would be willing to undertake printing jobs from France and send it to professional publishers' organisations in France through the Indian Embassy in Paris; and

8. The professional associations of the book industry on either side may establish direct contacts and undertake collective publicity for their members by mailing their catalogues, publicity material and informative literature to the other side.

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Inauguration of French Book Centre in Delhi

Within the framework of the French President's visit to India from the 27th to 30th November 1982, two delegations of French Publishers have arrived in Delhi.

The official delegation comprises of the following publishers with the areas of their specialisation.

Mr A. Thiollier Asiatheque 6, Rue Christine 75006 Paris	Publications on Asia Archaeology, History Linguistics, Religion
Mr Suaudeau Editions Privat 14, Rue des Arts 31000 Toulouse	Archaeology, Ethnology Folklore, Geography, History Medicine, Philosophy, Psychology, Economics, Political Science

Another delegation of 10 publishers and other persons connected with the book trade have also arrived during the same period, in their private capacity.

Their brief particulars are given below :

Mr Michel FAVIER, Head of the Book Section at the Ministry of External Affairs

Miss E. FILIPPI, from the Ministry of External Affairs

Mr Bernard NICOLAIEFF, Counsellor in the Ministry of Foreign Trade

Mr Paul MONNET, Director of U.D.E.F-Export (Federation of French Publishers)

Mr Alain LEVY, Publisher from Editions Rene Baudouin (specialising in Arts and Crafts, Humour, Painting, Poetry, Religion, Erotica) and Bookseller.

Mrs S. SIEFFERT, Publisher, from Presses Orientalistes de France (specialists in Encyclopedias, Education, Ethnology, Folklore, Geography, Oriental studies, History, etc...)

Mr Jean-Pierre PINARDON, Publisher from Maisonneuve et Larose (specialising in Archaeology, Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, Ethnology, Architecture, History, Philosophy, Religion, Philosophy)

Mr Jean-Pierre VIVET, Editor of LIVRES-HEBDO, the most important book journal in France.

The two delegations will attend the inauguration of the FRENCH BOOK CENTER at A-3, New Defence Colony Shopping-cum-Office Complex. The Inauguration which will take place on the 29th November will be done by Her Excellency Madame MITTERRAND, the wife of the French President.

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Read Your Way up the Singapore Style*

VIJAY C KATKAR**

'Read your way up', this was a slogan aimed at the general public, especially younger children and their parents, at the 14th Festival of Book Fair held at Singapore from 4 to 12 September 1982. The event is an annual feature jointly organised by the National Book Development Council of Singapore and Singapore Book Publishers Association. This is one of the activities of NBDCS and SBPA in the field of book promotion that are going on in Singapore.

One of the main objectives of the NBDCS is to promote book-mindedness among the people at large. From this point of view, the Council organised a National Readership Survey and a Regional Seminar on the promotion of reading habit.

As a follow up action, the Council launched a National Reading Month from August 13 to September 12, 1982 which was called the most ambitious project of the Council by Mrs. Hedwig Anuar, the chairman of the Council. The National Reading Month was synchronised with the Singapore Festival of Books and Book Fair—1982. The theme of the National heading Month was, "Read with your child." It is remarkable that the campaign was supported by the National Trade Union Congress and was sponsored by the Singapore Labour Foundation.

The campaign was mainly aimed at the pre-schoolers. The Council feels that no one is too young to read and believes that a baby of eight months is old enough to be introduced to the world of books. During the campaign, leaflets on how to make reading enjoyable were distributed. The National Library compiled a list of 50 popular picture titles for the parents to identify and acquire suitable books for their children. The campaign was also focussed on teachers of preschoolers and staff of the National Trade Union Congress childcare centres. Teachers and staff are in a position to encourage young children to read. The Council organised a series of thirteen workshops for adults including parents, teachers and staff of the N.T.U.C. childcare centres. Each workshop was to consist of 25 participants to learn the technique of story-telling to the young. NTUC childcare centres are also expected to launch NTUC Parent Education Home Reading Project. The project would be of more than six months and aims at educating parents on the importance of reading to, and with their children at home.

Other organisations are supporting the campaign for the promotion of reading habit among other age groups. The Ministry of Education was to encourage all schools and junior colleges to hold book-promotion activities. National University of Singapore was given the task of organising programmes also for undergraduates. The National Library was categorising light fiction books and launched a project 'Read a book a day." Other organisations like Library Association of Singapore and Singapore Broadcasting Corporation were also reported to be associated with the campaign.

Some experts were invited from Britain and Japan to conduct workshops/courses. Other activities were story-telling, book related film shows, word games, reading games, poetry reading and writing sessions, play reading, dramatisation charades, puppet shows, public talks on book/authors, essay writing competition, etc. and a list of activities was prepared by the Council with an appeal to all professional and civic organisations to support the National Reading Month.

Mrs Anuar, the chairman of NBDCS, revealed some interesting observations with regard to some of the programmes. She mentioned, "The response of the parents to the workshop has been most heartening. They have been enthusiastic, highly motivated, almost anxiously eager to learn how to read and tell stories to their children. They have been

*The views expressed in this article are the personal views of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Government of India.

**Export Promotion Officer, Department of Education, Ministry of Education & Culture, Government of India.

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introduced to the range of good children's books of which they were previously unaware. They have experienced the joy of sharing a story with their child. They overcome their shyness for approaching a teacher or children's librarian for advice on their children's reading. Already some of them are coming back to the library with their children for more books to read together at home." She feels that this trend will grow as more workshops were being conducted and more parents get the message and develop the habit of reading and telling a story to their children every day.

Apart from the Regional Seminar on promotion of the Reading Habit and the National Reading Month, Seminar on the Challenges Facing Book Publishers in the Eighties (in Mandarin) and Asian Conference of Editors were organised jointly by the Council and SBPA. There were at least a dozen other book promotion activities by NBDCS either independently or in co-ordination with other organisations.

On the occasion of the opening of the 14th Festival of Books and Book Fair, the Council also presented book awards for works by Singaporeans published between 1980 and 1981 in the fields of fiction, non-fiction, poetry and children's books. Some of the best works of the local book designers and illustrators were also on display during the fair at the function room of the World Trade Centre.

Dr Ahmed Matter AG Minister for Social Affairs, pointed out in his inaugural speech at the opening of the Festival of Books and Book Fair, "The path up the reading ladder must be continued after one mastered the basic reading skills. In many countries adult new literates have lapsed into illiteracy because they did not have the right kind of reading material available. We must ensure that this does not happen in Singapore." The NBDCS and other educational organisations are certainly taking care of this though illiteracy is not more than ten per cent in Singapore. This is more relevant in the developing countries like India.

In India, National Book Trust (NBT), an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Education and Culture, has been established in 1957. One of the aims of the NBT is to create book-mindedness among the people. Obviously India's need is more acute than that of Singapore in the field of books and the promotion of reading habit. The National Book Trust should organise such creative activities. 1982, Silver Jubilee Year of the Trust, offers excellent opportunity for the Trust to launch a National Reading Month or allied activities. Organising a few of book exhibitions or occasionally a workshop or an essay competition does not seem adequate enough for such a vast country.

Book Fair

World Trade Centre is a prominent place in Singapore where important trade fairs are organised throughout the year. The Festival of Books and Book Fair is also organised in the premises of the same building. Though the size of the fair is not very large, the publishers of the Republic of China (Taiwan), Indonesia, India, Korea, Thailand and Philippines are participating regularly and therefore, it is a unique event for the publishers, book exporters, buyers, and the other organisations dealing with the educational aids. However, this year for the first time the publishers of USA, New Zealand, and Denmark also participated in the fair. It had 261 stands taken by 84 exhibitors. These figures do not indicate the number of the publishers/dealers who have visited the fair for their business deals without taking any stand. The fair has no entrance fee and it was estimated by the fair authorities that about 3,28,000 people visited the fair during 9 days. Cash sale of books worth Singapore $920,000.00 was made.

India is participating in the fair since 1973 and gradually the number of Indian participants is also growing. We are exporting text books on Engineering, Science, Management, Planning, Books on Art and Culture, Religion, Philosophy, Yoga etc. to Singapore. There seems to be a good demand for the literature of Rabindra Nath Tagore, Indian literature (particularly Indian Poetry), Indian cookery, and books on South East Asia. This year CBT also participated in the fair and it was proved that much more demand can be created for the books of children's interest. Imports of Indian books in Singapore for the period from January to December 1981 was as under:— (*)

1.	Text books S$	1,141,000.00
2.	Journals & other periodicals S$	143,000.00
3.	Other printed books & booklets S$	347,000.00
	Total S$	1,631,000.00
	Approx Rs	78,288,800.00

However, the books and printed matter imported by Singapore during the same period is worth S$ 66,088,000.00. (*) This shows the potentiality of Singapore book market. The main source of books for Singapore is the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. Being comparatively low in prices, the demand for Indian books can be increased by raising the production standard and sustained export efforts. One important point must

(*) *Source* : Singapore Trade Statistics Import and Export 1981.

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be borne in mind that the Singaporeans are very much quality conscious about books. The reason is obvious. The book industry of Singapore itself is highly advanced. Their books are very well printed, produced and equally well bound; moreover the prices are moderate. Blurred printing, substandard paper or loose binding irritates the Singaporeans. Therefore, another way of promoting Indian books in this market is co-publishing. This would raise the production standard and also reduce cost. Some of the publishing houses from the UK and the USA have taken steps in this direction and a few have already been brought out.

With a view to boost the export of Indian books in this market, we must open an Indian Book Centre in Singapore. To make the books popular, it is necessary that the books also must be available for ready purchase of the buyer. Such a centre will also cater to the needs of the other South-East Asian countries. The centre will publicise and promote the Indian books, will supply books when and where they are required. If it is not possible for the FPBAI and FIP to establish such a centre, the CAPEXIL can do it in collaboration with the Government for the promotion of Indian books in the region of South-East Asia. Dr Selvaratnam, Director, Regional Institute of Higher Education and Development and Mr S. Gopinathan, Ex-Chairman of NBDCS also emphasised this point. If we want to compete effectively with the books of the UK and the USA, this is one of the most essential steps.

Similarly, our latest annotated catalogues should be mailed to the National Library, Central Library of the National University of Singapore and other important organisations.

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Publishing Higher Educational Journals

TAJ RAWAT

Higher educational publishing in third world countries has been a main problem due to lack of sophisticated and modernised printing technology, which in developed countries is most advanced and highly scientific with high capacity and modernized equipment. The developing countries have produced very good authors and intellectuals but the major problem they face today is the lack of proper communication and publishing in a very modernized and sophisticated style which the authors and publishers from developed countries do not face today. Even then, they are producing excellent editions of academic journals with the collaboration of the world's well known publishing houses.

There should be a scholarly flow of educational publishing in the third world countries with academic and sophisticated writing and intellectual communication among the literateurs and authors of repute says P. Altbach, the well known educationist of Educational Foundation of the United States.

There are various newspapers, journals and magazines about educational planning and higher educational activities in India. But, do they fulfil the requirements of the scholars and students of the Indian universities? Or do they reflect the real prospects of Indian educational society? It is a matter of serious concern for our scholars and educationists in the Indian sub-continent. In some respects, Indian academicians and scholars have been successful in this mission to some extent but should we rely on a handful of journals, published in our country, though, there is a great need of such publishing on every subject in a country like ours.

Among the higher educational journals published in India are 'Journal of Higher Education' from University Grants Commission, a unique quarterly on academic and scholarly writings. 'Educational Quarterly' is also a blueprint in the field of educational planning published from the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs, mostly encouraging intelligent authors from various fields of education and culture. 'University News' published from Universities Association of India is also a blueprint for success for the research scholars. This fortnightly journal is very popular among the university teachers and students from whole of the country. The journal contains simple and juicy articles based on the educational planning and development in India, giving research and educational news and reviews in brief from all over the country, written by well known professors and academicians. Most of the articles contain genuine ideas and concrete suggestions on the educational planning and research work in India as well as abroad.

'Journal of Indian Education' mainly deals with current trends, educational practices and policies in school education. 'Indian Educational Review' is one of the top journals in the field of educational research in India with a balanced coverage. These journals are edited under the supervision of a noted scholar Dr R.P. Singh in National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), an educational institution for the propagation of educational planning and development in the country. Educational Review mainly deals with the higher educational research work and its evaluation and news and reviews about higher studies.

'Indian Literature', an excellent quarterly on literature is edited by a well known poet Keshav Malik from Sahitya Academy. For the last one decade India has made a tremendous progress in the field of art, culture, literature and several other human activities. Sangeet Natak Academy also produces a quarterly 'Sangeet Natak' and Lalit Kala Academy produces an art magazine on contemporary art, culture and artists of India.

'Alternatives', an academic journal on International affairs and international educational ideas with a genuine tilt of social change is edited by a prominent Gandhian and internationally known political scientist Dr Rajani Kothari. This journal gives news and views in the shape of essay and articles. 'Gandhi Marg' is also an academic journal on Gandhian ideas produced by Gandhi Peace Foundation, a reputed voluntary organisation for rural change in India. 'Design' is a journal on interior decoration, design and architectural engineering in India as well as abroad which mainly highlights the developments in the field of design in the Indian sub-continent after independence.

The journals published from the Indian Institute of Management and National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad are also of unique status but there is a great need to develop and popularise these publications through news and review media.

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'Indian Wild Life' mainly reflects about wild life in India, its present and future prospects with correct studies on forest life. 'The Chemical Times' the most popular weekly of Bombay's chemical industry is of its own kind of weekly which gives an account of various chemical and research work. Among the top travel journals 'Indramma', 'Bushika' 'Signature', 'Destination India', 'Swagatam', 'The India Magazine', are unique examples in the field of travel journalism in India. Particularly 'Bushika' is planning an international campaign to boost the tourism in the developing countries including India. It is also interesting to note that Design and Fashion Magazines have flooded the market. For example 'Inside Outside' a bimonthly edited by Mallika Sarabhai is an unique piece on interior decoration. 'Gentlemen Fashion' edited by Minaz; 'Forecast Fashion' by Poonam Mehrotra, are among the commercial journals to boost interior decoration and fashion image in India as well as abroad.

'Movie' and 'Take Two' are two film magazines which boast of high circulation and wide readership. Shobha Kilachand's 'Celebrity' is an unique example of its kind as this highlights intellectual image and some tit bits with prominent personalities all over the country.

'India Abroad' a weekly on international politics and mass communication is published by Gopal Raju from New York. This weekly is mainly dealing with the Indian intellectuals and persons residing abroad. 'Indian Overseas' published by S.K. Sital from Hongkong is a journal of unique charm which highlights the affairs on overseas Indian community. 'India Weekly' from Britain is also an excellent production of its kind which is considered among the best news weeklies from abroad. 'India Abroad' is a weekly of liberal ideas with the readership of more than one lac. 'Freedom First', edited by prominent poet and philosopher, Nissim Ezekiel and 'Imprint' is edited by a well known journalist and critic Arun Gandhi. The journal is based on Gandhian values and broad Indian culture. There is a community monthly 'Parsiana' edited and published by a young Parsi journalist Jehangir Patel, which is an excellent example of journalism in India. This journal reflects the ideas and views of the Parsi community in India as well as abroad. 'Himmat' was also based on Gandhian principles but now it is closed down due to some economic circumstances. 'Gandhi Marg' is a monthly journal on broad-based Gandhian and social values, which mainly highlights the views of those working in the field of spreading Gandhian revolution and truthful ideals all over the world.

The 'Canadian India Times' published from Ottawa is also a weekly reflecting the views and news on the Indian community residing in Canada. Some time before this weekly proved a landmark success in Canada but due to some unknown circumstances the publication has ceased sine die.

The 'Indian P.E.N.' is a bimonthly journal (now defunct) published by All India P.E.N. Association for the propagation of Indo-Anglican writing mass communication, human rights and restoring press freedom in Indian sub-continent. Journal of Indian Writing in English is also a genuine production of Indian authors which has been highlighting the problems and hardships of Indian writing in English. The Journal is edited by Dr G.S. Balarama Gupta without any personal benefit. This journal has been a remarkable success since it emerged from the press. The journal is surviving on subscriptions from some poets, philosophers and scholars of English language. 'Rajasthan Journal of English', 'Teachers Journal of English Studies', 'Skylark', 'Unilit', 'Minimax', 'Indian Verse' are among the journals of modern English poetry and English studies and 'Aligarh Journal of English Studies' have progressed in a distinguished way for the last four years. 'Manthan' a journal on Indian Art and culture has been of great importance to the scholars and intellectuals who are engaged in advanced and scholarly studies of Hindu philosophy in India as well as abroad, particularly about the broad ancient Indian historical and cultural values.

'Communicator' is a bimonthly journal on mass communication in India, published by the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, highlighting the Institute's educational and cultural activities regularly in a prolific style. 'Vidura' is a monthly journal published by the Press Institute of India rejuvenating intellectual, cultural and journalistic freedom in India which often highlights the activities of free press in India as well as abroad.

Today, we are on the forefront of political crisis and democratic change, we should be able to publish more and more academic journals in a more sophisticated way. I agree with Professor Altbach's views that there should be a free flow of intellectual publishing among the developing countries for the social, educational, political and cultural uplift of their people. Today, great need is being realised of scholarly publishing in the third world countries which can be fulfilled by voluntary effort of some educationists and academicians in the concerned fields.

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Gabriel Garcia Marquez—A Profile

Winner of this Year's Nobel Prize for Literature

There was envy at the success of his masterpiece, **One Hundred Years of Solitude,** *alarm over his left-wing politics, and a well-bred Colombian distaste at his colourful language.*

Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the novelist who was recently awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, is the Prodigal Son of Colombia.

The imaginations of millions of Colombians are now working overtime on the Prodigal Son's return, which is going to have a lot of style, charged emotions, tears, a touch of farce, and a sure element of the fantastical : just like a Garcia Marquez novel.

The scene will be played out at Bogota's International Airport. The flight from Mexico where he has lived for many years, will arrive. He and his wife, will be enveloped in hugs and kisses by the President and First Lady. Colombia's stirring national anthem will be played, the military will salute, and huge crowds will cheer.

The event may even be blessed by sunshine. December is one of the few months when the sun filters through Bogota's bleak and chilly skies, a good month for the return of a homesick exile, and it is at Christmas that "Gabo," or "Gabito" as he is affectionately known, says he will be back.

Relations with his homeland have not always been so warm. There was envy at the huge success of his masterpiece, **One Hundred Years of Solitude**, first published in 1967; alarm over his left-wing politics and his friendship with Fidel Castro; and a well-bred Colombian distaste at his colourful language.

Garcia Marquez was born in 1928, in Aracataca, a small coastal town that owed its tenuous hold on prosperity to the nearby banana plantations. It was a remote sort of place. "There was a constant need for diversion," he says. "Jugglers, magicians and fire-eaters arrived and many things happened. The memory I have is of a hot, dusty and violent town. The weekends were a permanent fiesta when we virtually locked ourselves in the house. On Mondays there were corpses and wounded people lying in the streets."

Later Aracataca was transformed in Garcia Marquez's fiction into Macondo, the setting for **One Hundred Years of Solitude**. He left when he was only eight, on a scholarship to a boarding school near Bogota. "It was like a death because I lost my town, my people and my family —my way of acting, my culture which belonged to the Caribbean. I felt like a foreigner."

Everything in his books, he says, came from his experiences in Aracataca, living with his grandmother in a wooden house with a corrugated iron roof. It held a large and shifting population of family and visitors. "My grandfather had about 17 sons scattered all over the place whom he had fathered in the Civil War and they all kept coming home, riding mules and going to sleep in hammocks. We also kept open house to foreigners. The train arrived at 11 o'clock every morning and my grandmother always said : "We have to have meat and fish ready because we don't know who is going to come and what they would like."

The house was dominated by women, who kept the young boy quiet by warning him that if he moved at night, death or dead people would come out of every room. "When darkness fell. I would be terrified. It is something so deeply engraved in my mind that sometimes, when I am in hotels sleeping alone, I wake up in the middle of the night feeling that same terror which I felt as a child. I'm still afraid of the dark."

Small wonder that such a highly-charged childhood produced an imagination vivid in macabre and fantastic images, at once surreal and solidly down-to-earth. **One Hundred Years of Solitude** is the story of a family through six generations and

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a town from its founding to its apocalypse. It is a brilliant and crowded canvas that takes in the history of Colombia, the discovery of the Americas, and the domestic details of Garcia Marquez's own family; a novel that makes much of the current output of novelists writing in English seem thin and spineless.

Latin Americans were always enthusiastic about the book. Pablo Neruda, the Chilean poet who himself won the Nobel Prize, called it "perhaps the greatest revelation in the Spanish languages since the Don Quixote of Cervantes." English critics were less warm, at least to begin with, despite Garcia Marquez's own claim that the English translation of the book, by Gregory Rabassa, reads better than the Spanish original.

Critical opinions are warmer now. V.S. Pritchett regards Garcia Marquez as one of the world's great writers :

"The master weaver of the real and the conjectured. His descriptive power astounds at once. His prose is plain, exact, subtle and springly and easily leaps into the comical and exuberant."

For many years Garcia Marquez earned his living through journalism. As a young man he worked for a paper in Barranquilla, a steaming-hot port city, elements of which later reappeared in the fictional Macondo.

It is a city with a large black population, a vibrantly exciting atmosphere, and extreme poverty. He lived in a hotel frequented by prostitutes and learned that high local government officials"—their main clients—"did not come to make love but rather talk about themselves." It was a good base for work. "A writer needs a desert island in the morning and the big city at night. As William Faulkner once declared, the perfect home for a writer is a brothel—because in the morning hours it's always calm and in contrast at night there's always a party atmosphere."

Today his home is in an elegant suburb of Mexico City, though in Barcelona and briefly in London. He works in stifling heat, the thermostat deliberately set at a steaming 28°C, the tropical temperature in which he grew up and which he says he still needs to think.

Faulkner, Kafka and a grandfather who enchanted him by telling him fantastic tall stories—and from whom he seems to have inherited his own wild imagination—were the strongest literary influences.

He became a Socialist early in his youth : "I wish the world was Socialist and I think that sooner or later it will be." But he stresses that politics and literature must never be mixed, since the result is always bad literature. "The duty of a writer—the revolutionary duty if you like—is simply to write well."

President Mitterrand (a personal friend who is said to be obsessed by **One Hundred Years of Solitude**) sent a warm congratulatory telegram to Garcia Marquez, but it is doubtful if the present incumbent of the White House is as pleased. "That illiterate cowboy," as Garcia Marquez has called him, is "the most dangerous US President for Latin America in my lifetime, a man bent on keeping the region's military dictators firmly seated on their thrones of blood." It is perhaps not surprising that he has difficulty entering the US.

But some of his friends and literary colleagues, like Peruvian novelist Mario Vargas Llosa, have expressed concern that he is blind to repression in Cuba and only condems right-wing regimes. "Are there good torturers and bad torturers?" wonders Vargas Llosa.

However, Garcia Marquez has always backed his word with money. He founded and finances a Mexico-based human rights organisation for Latin America. For years he subsidised a left-wing weekly magazine in Bogota, despite the huge losses caused by an advertisers' boycott. Now he plans to plough most of the Nobel Prize money into a new Colombian daily newspaper to be launched early next year, a project which many Colombians believe shows that this time he is coming home for good.

His wife, Mercedes, a childhood sweetheart and mother of their two sons, is said to be eager to return, despite the threat to them from right-wing death squads and kidnap gangs.

The Nobel Prize, he swears, will not change him. "Never, in any circumstances have I forgotten that in the truth of my soul I am nothing more and nothing less than one of the 16 children of the Aracataca telegraph clerk."

His best book? On different occasions he has mentioned both **Nobody Writes to the Colonel**, a dry laconic novella, and his stylistic tour-de-force. **The Autumn of the Patriarch**. He is well satisfied with **One Hundred Years of Solitude**, but does not regard it as his best work. Now he is writing a love story ("not a tragic one, what we need now is happiness") and his memoirs.

Supersitition runs rife in Colombia's Caribbean region and in Garcia Marquez's novels, and some time ago he spoke of "the metaphisical terror" which he claimed gripped many great writers each year if they were touted for the Nobel because winners tend to survive no more than seven years. Now he jokes that he will attend the awards ceremony, not in evening dress but wearing a "guayabera," a uniquely Colombian word for the colourful tropical shirt favoured by men on the coast. It would be a characteristically exuberant gesture by a man who has never forgotten his roots.

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The Book Publishing Industry in Sri Lanka From 1965 to 1980

(A Study Commissioned by the National Book Council of Sri Lanka)

The National Book Development Council of Sri Lanka decided in February 1981 to initiate a study on the state of book publishing in the country from 1956 to 1980. This study was referred to the Marga Institute, but as reference material was available more conveniently at the National Bibliography Division of the National Library Services Board, the work was done there. At the very beginning, it was clear that 1956 was not a convenient point to start. The main reason for this difficulty was the absence of a bibliography prior to 1962. Information could have been collected from the Archives Department, but this was thought unnecessary as it was decided to confine the scope of the study to a statistical analysis of creative writing during this period, taking children's literature separately. This study is therefore more a statistical one than one going into details of content of publications, etc.

The National Bibliography of Sri Lanka commenced publishing under the Director of Archives only in 1962. It was therefore decided at the National Library Services Board to take the 15 year period (1965-1980) for the survey. Even here the year 1974 which marked the transfer of the compilation of the bibliography from the Department of Archives to the National Library Services Board has not been covered by the compilers. The following report therefore indicates the state of the publishing industry in relation to the topics selected from 1965 to 1980 (leaving out 1974); as revealed by the National Bibliography of Sri Lanka. The National Book Development Council has stated that their main objective in this study is to discover through it the paucity or otherwise of children's books in particular, while assessing the production of books in general.

It was not possible to undertake any detailed study of all publications with regard to quality and contents with the staff available at the National Library Services Board. It is hoped that what follows and the statistical table annexed will enable the National Book Development Council to get an idea of the publishing industry in Sri Lanka in the area of the production of books for general reading.

The annexed statement shows the statistics of the total number of publications, for the years mentioned, publications which would fall within the category of creative writing and children's literature.

According to the figures, the average number of publications per year within the period mentioned was 1376.8. When these are further separated by the language media, the average number of titles per year in Sinhala, Tamil and English were 690.6; 316.3 and 369.6 respectively. The average for literary production and children's books (shown as totals and as titles per language media) were as follows : Total average of creative writing—196. Average number of titles in Sinhala—158.3, Tamil—23.8 and English—13.9. When averages were worked out for children's literature, the following dismal figures emerged: Average for all languages 29.9, Sinhala 26.9; Tamil 1.2; English 1.7. These averages are per year.

Whatever the averages may show, the exact position is that there have been very lean years within the period, viz. 1966, 1967, 1975, 1976. The lowest number of publications have appeared in the year 1976. This seems to indicate a particular tendency. Whenever there were severe restrictions of foreign exchange, imports, etc., there has been a definite reduction in the output of books and perhaps in production in other spheres too. When the then government allowed OGL imports this was immediately reflected in the increase of publications from 893 titles in 1966 to 1347 titles in 1968. Correspondingly in the years 1975 and 1976 when the most stringent controls on imports and foreign exchange expenditure were enforced a decline of the publication figures resulted though these immediately rose with the policy of liberalization in 1977. The number of publications in 1977 was almost double that of 1976 and this kept on increasing in the years 1978 and 1979 and appears to reflect the results of the open trade policy of the present government. 1979 shows the highest figures for the 15-year period with 2703 publications. It does not, of course, mean that in this year a larger number of literary works or children's books were produced—this occurred in 1980 where out of the total of 1858 publications creative literature accounts for 277 and children's books for 82.

Creative literature itself is a small percentage of the total number of publications. In 1965, out

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of 1168 publications only 86 could be included in this category and of these 86 titles 35 were children's books, 34 of which were in Sinhala and one in Tamil.

The averages for the 15 years keep to this pattern, especially for children's literature with Sinhala books averaging 29.9 books per year. Tamil 1.2 books per year and English 1.7 books per year. English language children's books average was slightly higher than Tamil, though there were no books in English published at all in 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1970, 1972 and 1978. No children's books in Tamil appeared in 1972, 1975, 1977 and 1979.

Among children's books in Sinhala, the highest number of books appeared in 1980, with 77 books, and the lowest in 1973 with 9 books. In Tamil, the highest number 6, appeared in 1968 and for English the highest in 1969, also 6 books.

The general picture presented by the statistics for the 15 years may be considered representative even of the earlier years. But taking the country's development as the background against which book publishing takes place, or taking publishing of books as an industry which develops or recedes along with the rest of the country's industries, depending upon the availability of capital, raw material, foreign exchange, etc., the situation during 1965-1980 should be better than for any preceding era. Educational levels were higher, the population was greater, the literacy rate greater and the importance of national languages higher than ever. Hence, publications in Sinhala and Tamil should have been greater. But if in this period, the production was so poor it is necessary to ask what was wrong with book publishing in the country ? Was this a reflection of widespread poverty which did not enable parents to buy books for children ? Why do people not buy reading materials in general ?

Although the statistics collected do not show a breakdown of all publications, a glance at the National Bibliography shows that most of the material in any year consisted of Government publications. Even with these, there have been some years where production has been significantly low. (In 1976 which is the lowest year, there were only 681 publications. The next lowest year was 1966 with 760. The best years have been 1979 with 2703, 1980 with 1858, 1972 with 1744 and 1978 with 1594.)

(The situation right through the period examined for children's publication must be considered unsatisfactory in relation to the large number of children who need reading materials other than the few school textbooks they are compelled to use for education and entertainment. Here the Sinhala publishing sector has been much more active than the Tamil. The percentages have been given earlier, but the actual figures over the years show wide fluctuation, varying from 77 in 1980 to 9 in 1973. A total of 20 children's books or more (in all media) was regularly maintained except in 1968 (18), 1972 (19), 1973 (12) and in this Sinhala books have predominated. Tamil children's books as stated earlier had an average of 1.2 books per year with the highest production in 1968 (6) followed by 1966 and 1971 with two books each. There have been no Tamil children's publications in 1972, 1975, 1977 and 1979, while the other years have one each. The best year for children's books for all languages was 1980 with 82 books of which 77 are in Sinhala, 1 in Tamil and the rest (4) in English. What did the Tamil children read ?)

Statistics of Book Publishing in Sri Lanka for the period 1965—1980

Number of books published during the year	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
	1168	760	893	1345	1290	1469	1489	1744	1534	937	681	1187	1594	2703	1858
Sinhala	865	296	506	656	637	750	758	925	708	484	341	571	719	1174	970
Tamil	158	184	112	319	324	305	307	341	403	230	159	339	405	686	473
English	145	280	275	370	329	414	424	478	423	223	181	277	470	843	415
Creative Writing	86	161	105	208	193	196	275	294	167	216	134	187	181	261	279
Sinhala	64	143	95	176	162	162	240	257	129	162	85	132	144	203	221
Tamil	20	15	08	25	26	29	19	20	33	37	27	37	06	22	33
English	02	03	02	06	05	05	16	17	09	17	22	18	31	36	23
Children's books	35	30	23	18	29	27	31	19	12	24	22	20	33	43	82
Sinhala	34	28	22	12	22	26	24	19	09	22	17	19	32	41	77
Tamil	01	02	01	06	01	01	02	—	01	—	01	—	01	—	01
English	—	—	—	—	06	—	05	—	02	02	04	01	—	02	04

Source : The National Bibliography 1965-73—Dept. of National Archives
1974-80—National Library Services Board

Statistics was collected by Mrs. Srimathi Gunasena and Mrs. A. Wijesinghe

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PURCHASE OF LIGHT READING MATERIAL FOR TROOPS.

The attention of all members is invited to Circular No. Fed/30/82, dated February 2, 1982, regarding purchase of books by the Ministry of Defence for Troops. As per laid procedure 10 (ten) copies of the list of books along with 4 copies of the Books are required to be sent bi-annually on 1st April and 1st October of each year. The lists as on 1st April, 1982 may please be sent to the Ministry of Defence, immediately, but not later than 15 August, 1982.

It is, however, requested that the guidelines prescribed by the Ministry of Defence should be strictly followed, and that ten copies of the list on a foolscap paper, as proforma, should be sent alongwith.

The books/lists, etc. and all correspondence on the subject may please be addressed to : Shri S. R. Sanger, Desk Officer, Ministry of Defence, Room No. 51, Block E, New Delhi-110011.

The FIP Membership Screening Committee had met on 22 October 1982 and considered applications of the following Publishers which had been received by them.

NEW MEMBERS OF FIP

The Names and Addresses of the new members of the Federation of Indian Publishers are given below.

Shiksha Bharati,
Madrasa Road,
Kashmere Gate,
Delhi-110006

Upper India Publishing
House Pvt. Ltd.,
Aminabad,
Lucknow-226018

Milind Publication Pvt. Ltd.,
6 E, Rani Jhansi Road,
New Delhi-110055

Hem Publishers Pvt. Ltd.,
C-123, Greater Kailash I,
New Delhi-110048

Nistandera Prakashan,
35, Kucha Karam Chand,
Jammu Tawi-180001 (J & K)

Satsahitya Prakashan,
205, Chawri Bazar,
Delhi-110006

Pratibha Pratishthan,
1685, Dakhni Rai Street,
Netaji Subhash Marg,
New Delhi-110002

Bright Careers Institiute,
Sagar Market, 1st Floor,
1525, Nai Sarak,
Delhi-110006

Shri A. K. Jetha
Proprietor
M/s Akbarali H. Jetha,
Opp. Byculla Goods Depot,
Dr Babasabad Ambedkar Road
Bombay-400027

Sri Deepak Kapur
Financial Controller
M/s Gowarsons Publishers (P) Ltd.,
Gulab Bhavan, Mayapuri,
New Delhi-110064

Shri R. K. Gupta
Pustak Mahal,
F-2/16 Ansari Road, Daryaganj,
New Delhi-110002

Shri Kewal Krishan
Neelam Publishers
4451, Nai Sarak,
Delhi-110006

Shri Kailash Khosla
Vikrant Press
32, DSIDC Industrial Complex,
Wazir Pur,
Delhi-110052

Shri A. C. Chawla
Harnam Publications,
4378/4-B, Ansari Road,
New Delhi-110002

Shri Yogendra Pal
Sahitya Prakashan
1458, Maliwara,
Delhi-110006

Shri B. C. Barua
Barua Agency
Publishers and Booksellers
Dighali Pukhari Park
Gauhati

Shri Ramesh Jain
Manohar Book Service
2, Ansari Road, Darya Ganj,
New Delhi-110002

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NEWS & EVENTS

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, released *Non-Story of A Chief Secretary During Emergency Et Cetera* by Mohan Mukerji on October 20, 1982 at her residence. Seen in the photograph are Mrs Gandhi, Mr Mohan Mukerji former Chief Secretary to the Government of Rajasthan, Mr. T.N. Chaturvedi, Home Secretary, Government of India, Mr R.K. Paul, Publisher, Prof. Ramesh Arora and Sabeena.

BOOK PUBLISHING TO BE INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES

Secretary, Central Board of Direct Taxes of the Government of India, in his Circular No. 347 issued on file F. No. 166/4/81-11 (AI) on 7 July, 1982, addressed to all Commissioners of Income Tax has stated that Book Publishing Companies even though they may not be engaged in the printing of books, qualify to be treated as industrial companies for the purpose of section 104 as well as for the concessional taxes treatment given to industrial companies.

THE 20TH CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR WILL BE HELD IN BOLOGNA FROM 3RD TO 6TH MARCH 1983

The 20th Children's Book Fair will be held in Bologna from 3rd to 6th March, 1983, a month earlier than the traditional April appointment. This is due to technical reasons and is exceptional, being limited to 1983.

From 1984 onwards the Book Fair will once again take place, as usual, at the beginning of April.

A prominent feature of this edition of the Book Fair is that it is the twentieth, a milestone at which point a review can be made of the results achieved in all those twenty years of activity as well as of the prospects opening up for the future.

Within the compass of this celebration one foresees an inauguration with a press conference and the award of the Graphic Prize "Fiera di Bologna" and the "Critici in Erba" Prize.

ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF CHRISTIANS

London : There are 1,400 million Christians in 233 countries divided into 150 major ecclesiastical traditions, according to a vast new reference work, "World Christian Encyclopaedia", published by the Oxford University Press, £ 65, England.

Believed to be the most comprehensive work of its type, the 1,000-page book—subtitled "A Comparative Survey of Churches and Religions in the Modern World, A.D. 1900-2000"—took 12 years to compile. The editor is British-born Dr. David Barrett, research officer for the Church of the Province of Kenya and the Anglican Consultative Council in Nairobi.

The main part of the book consists of a religious analysis of every country, with detailed entries, supplemented by pictures, maps, historical data and biographical and bibliographical material. There is also an attempt to forecast statistically the growth and decline in different Christian communities by the end of the century.

The London newspaper "Daily Telegraph" says : "This is a unique, monumental reference book which will fascinate and inform for the next decade."

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AUSTRALIAN DOCTOR WINS COMMONWEALTH POETRY PRIZE

London : Peter Goldsworthy, a 31-year-old Australian doctor, is the winner of the 1982 Commonwealth poetry prize for his collection of verse, "Readings from Ecclesiastes".

The winner was announced in London and in Brisbane, where a Commonwealth Writers' Week was being held concurrently with the Commonwealth Games. Mr. Goldsworthy's book, published by Angus and Robertson, was chosen from 43 entries from 13 countries.

Poets who participated in the competition came from India, Australia, Bangladesh, Bermuda, Canada, Guyana, Jamaica, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, the Solomon Islands, Trinidad and Zimbabwe.

AUSTRALIAN BAGS BOOKER PRIZE

Australian writer Thomas Keneally was on Tuesday night awarded this year's £ 10,000 Booker prize, Britains most coveted award for fiction, for his novel "Schindler's Ark."

The book, according to the author and publisher, is 90 per cent fact. "Schindler's Ark" caused controversy when it was chosen as one of six books short-listed for the prize.

Professor John Carey, chairman of the judges, defended its choice : "There is no falsity in the book, but he has made a novel by structuring, placing and ordering. We discussed this question and in the end none of us thought it should be disqualified on the grounds of not being a novel."

The book tells the World War II story of a German industrialist, who saved over 1,000 Jews from the holocaust, taking them from concentration camps to work in his factory. It is based on interviews with survivors from Australia, Europe, and South America.

AWARDS FOR VED MEHTA

Noted India-born writer Ved Mehta is among 19 persons selected to share one of the premier American awards for talented people. Others include an Assyriologist and a West Asian affairs expert.

The 19 winners will receive from 24,000 dollars to 60,000 dollars annually for five years, from the John D. and Catherine Mac-Arthur Foundation.

ART BOOK DISTRIBUTION CENTRE

Art Book Centre (Ahmedabad-380036) glad to inform you that we have recently taken sole distributionship for the following title : Acharya Kanchansagarsurji : Shri Shatrunjay Giriraj Darshan in Sculpture and Architecture, Foreword by H.G. Shashtri, pp. xiv, 40, 15, 116, with 134 black and white plates, 1982, Rs 180.

The above book published by Aagamoddharak Granthamala and only *500* copies printed.

NEW CHAIRMAN OF RRMR LIBRARY

The Government of India has nominated Shri Mohun Mukerjee. IAS (Retd) as Chairman of the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation for a period of three years. He has assumed the office since March 1, 1982.

Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation has received annual contribution of Rs 76 lakhs from 14 States and Union Territories during the year 1981-82. For the same period assistance with Rs 32.98 lakhs approx. has been rendered to, by states and union territories.

AYURVEDA PHARMACOPEIA

It is proposed to prepare an Ayurveda pharmacopeia of single drugs which have been included in the official formulary. It will also prescribe the working standards for compound formulations including tests for identity, purity and quality so as to ensure uniformity of the finished

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formulations. The task has been entrusted by the Union Government to the reconstituted Ayurvedic Pharmacopeia Committee and its two sub-committees.

RAJA RAM MOHAN ROY LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The Foundation is sponsored by the Ministry of Education of the Government of India. It purchases books under its Central Selection Scheme, and under its matching assistance programme, various State Governments also select books every year. In response to our recent letter, the Foundation has informed as below :

"1. Under its Central Selection Scheme the Foundation normally accepts upto 5 titles of one Indian Publisher for one selection. There is no fixed date for submission of books. A publisher or his authorised representative (with letter of authorisation from the publisher) may submit one specimen copy of each of its 5 publications to the Foundation for consideration of selection. Normally the books should not be priced more than 100 rupees and no increase of price by way of stamping, pasting of slips or title pages etc. are accepted.'

"2. Under the matching assistance of the Foundation various State Governments also select books every year. Many of the States fix a last date for submission of books at their respective headquarters and issue announcements for submission of books under the scheme of the Foundation in certain newspapers. In this regard necessary information may by obtained from the concerned Conceners of State Library Planning Committees in various States etc".

The address of the Foundation is Raja Ram-Mohan Roy Library Foundation, 110, Jodhpur Park, Calcutta-700 068. For any details and clarification please write to them.

PROBLEMS OF INDIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT : National & Regional Dimensions

K.N. Prasad

1982 606pp Rs 200

This work is based on the author's wide experience of and research in India's Economic Development. He examines the causes of the sluggish growth of the nation's economy and points out in a very clear and incisive manner the reasons for the pockets of backwardness of some specific area. In three parts the book explores the national dimensions and the regional dimensions, and examines the cause for the backwardness of the Bihar region. In the last part, he outlines the need for an institutional approach to these problems.

Dr. Prasad is presently Head of the Department of Economics in Patna University, and is the author of our best selling book, 'Problems of Economic Development in the Third World' with special reference to India.

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	Rs.
Bose, P.K. : Graduate Employment and Higher Education in West Bengal	95.00
Gulati, R.R. : Monochrome and Colour Television (NBT Subsidized)	In press
Kant, S. : Cobol Programming	In press
Singh, L.P. : Advanced Power Systems Analysis and Dynamics	26.00
Sodha, M.S. : Reviews of Renewable Energy Resources Vol. I	165.00
Srivastava, U.K.: Quantitative Techniques for Managerial Division Making	In press

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4835/24, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi-110002
6 Shri B.P. Wadia Road, Basavanguri, Bangalore-560004
Abid House, Dr Bhadkamkar Marg, Bombay-400007
Ballygunge Circular Road, Calcutta-700019

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MONTHLY LISTING

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Central Library
Jawaharlal Nehru University
New Delhi-110067

REFERENCE

ASSOCIATION OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES, DELHI
Handbook of Engineering Education 1982. 1982, 150p. Rs 12

ASSOCIATION OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES, DELHI
Handbook of Management Education 1982. 1982, 120p. Rs 12

DUPUIS & MUSSET
French-Tamil dictionary. Madras, Asian Educational Services, 1982, 870p. Rs 295

EITEL, E.J.
Sanskrit Chinese dictionary. New Delhi, COSMO, 1981, 228p. Rs 100

GUNDERT
Malayalam-English dictionary. Madras, Asian Educational Services, 1982, 1132p. Rs 150

MACDONELL, A.A. & KEITH, A.B.
Vedic index of names and subjects. New Delhi, Motilal Banarsidass, 1982, 544p. Rs 200

MEHRA, P.
Dictionary of home care. New Delhi, 1982. (Price not mentioned)

QURAISHI, S.V.
Haryana: a select bibliography. Gurgaon, Indian Documentation Service, 1982, Rs 90

REYMOND, CHAS & STEEDMAN
Reinforced concrete designers handbook. 9th ed. New Delni, Rupa & Co., 1982, Rs 125

SWAMINATHAN, M.
Handbook of food and nutrition. Bangalore, Bappoo Publications, 1982, 296p. Rs 22

AGRICULTURE

HUSSAIN, MAJID
Crop combinations in India: A study. New Delhi, Concept, 1982, 206p. Rs 100

MANA, D.A.
Studies in air spora. Aurangabad, Parimal Prakashan, 1982, 146p. Rs 110

ART, ARCHITECTURE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

BAUMER, BETTINA, *Ed.*
Rupa pratirupa: Alice Boner commemoration volume. New Delhi Biblia Impex, 1982, 212p. Rs 180

HASAN, AMIR & HASAN, SEEMIN
Folktales of U.P. Tribes. Gurgaon, Academic Press, 1982, xii+144p. Rs 65

POOLE, S.
Coin and Medals. New Delhi, COSMO, 1982, 286p. Rs 150

PRAJNANANANDA, SWAMI
Historical study of Indian music. New Delhi, Munshiram Manoharlal, 1982, 412p. (Price not mentioned)

THAKUR, UPENDRA
Madhubani painting. New Delhi, Abhinav Publications, 1982, 158p. Rs 210

WALEY, A.
Oriental art and culture. 2 Vols. New Delhi, COSMO, 1982, 142p. Rs 350

BIOGRAPHY

DARBARA SINGH
Reading Caudewell. Chandigarh, Lokayat Prakashan, 1982, 79p. Rs 30

IQBAL SINGH
Rammohun Roy: A biographical enquiry into the making of modern India. New Delhi, Asia, 1982, 384p. Rs 90

ECONOMICS

AROCKIASAMY, M.S.
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The book has been compiled by a group of college professors and teachers, authors of works in various branches of mathematical analysis (Valentina Yefimenko in calculation mathematics, the late Grigory Lunts in the complex-variable function theory, Sergei Frolov in variational calculus, the Abram Yanpolsky in differential calculus).

The book has been edited by the late Professor Boris Demidovich, Doctor of Physical and Mathematical Sciences. The problems and examples included in the book cover a general course in higher mathematics for engineering colleges.

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BOOK REVIEWS

LEARNING FROM THE RURAL POOR—Shared Experiences of the Mobile Orientation and Training Team by Henery Volken Ajoy Kumar, Sara Kaithara, Indian Social Institute, 1982, Rs 15.00

The title of this book expresses best the essential characteristics of the four-year involvement of the Mobile Orientation and Training team. (MOTT) with the rural poor. It also analyses the distinctive methodology developed by MOTT to support the rural poor and oppressed in the discovery of their potential to be makers of their own future. In training animators MOTT enables them to develop the capacity to work with their people so as to deal creatively with the immediate problems of hunger, disease, indebtedness and agricultural productivity and, while doing this, to acquire increasingly, a critical understanding of the causes of their poverty that are rooted in the nature and functioning of society.

All those involved in any way in social action with the rural poor will find this book valuable for its insights, methodology and concrete experience of grassroots reality.

LAW & PROCEDURE OF PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION IN PUBLIC SERVICE, by K.P. Chakravarti, Vora Prakashan, 1981, Rs 80.00

The author is a brilliant scholar of the Calcutta University. A prizeman and winner of several literary awards, he has written a number of Law books, particularly in the field of public service and industrial law. His present work 'Law and Procedure of Prevention of Corruption in Publie Service' is the result of his deep and insightful study of the problem of corruption in public service. Corruption in any form is a social evil and is the deadliest enemy of any free and civilised society. Every thinking man will realise that it poses a serious problem to the society as a whole. It affects the administration very seriously where the public officials are self-seeking and motivated more by personal gain than by national or public interest.

This is an outstanding work not only from the legal point of view, but also from the social standpoint. It is a thorough study of the problem as well as of its legal and social remedy. It covers every facet of the problem which is corroding national life. It is bound to be useful to all concerned with, public departments, police establishments, anti-corruption agencies and particularly, the legal profession. Every care has been taken to put appropriate heading and sub-heading to each of the topics, to enable the reader to locate conveniently the relevant matter. An exhaustive subject index is a special feature of the book. All the latest caselaws, reported and unreported, have been incorporated at the appropriate places in the book. A detailed "table of cases" has been appended for easy reference. Sufficient guidelines for the police as well as other departments have been provided to avoid lacuna in the prosecution of corruption cases.

A CLASSICAL DICTIONARY OF HINDU MYTHOLOGY AND RELIGION, GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY & LITERATURE by John Dowson, Rupa & Co., 1982, Rs 30.00

This classical dictionary of Hindu Mythology and Religion will fulfil the demand of the people who were waiting for it for a long time. Many years have gone into the preparation of this book and the main portion of this book consists of references to Hindu Mythology, Religion, Geography, History and Literature. This book is derived from many rare publications both by European and other scholars. The author has garnered the full harvest of Indian learning so that matter relating to Hindu Mythology, Religion, Geography, History and Literature can be easily expounded by a ready reference to this book.

The author has worked diligently and carefully, intelligently and painstakingly, and the result is a perfect reference book. The book would be more valuable and interesting were it well illustrated with plates and cuts. However, it is valuable and interesting to scholars interested in the specialised subjects. It is also a good companion for the lay reader, because it is written in the tradition of great European scholars of Indian literature like Max Muller, Weber, Rath and Lassen.

INDIAN CIVILIZATION: APPROACHES AND METHODS by M. Jha, The Indian Publications, 1982, Rs 45.00

The present book on Indian civilization deals with various approaches and methods applied to the study of Indian civilisation viz. Tribal, Rural, Urban and Textual. Various theoretical hypotheses and concepts,

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which are in vogue in Anthropology, have been reviewed and summarised systematically, which will be very useful to the students and scholars of social sciences. The theoretical interpretations and the contextual analysis of the recent researches in the field of Indian civilization have been excellently highlighted by the author.

THE HISTORY OF INDIA by J.C. Marshman, Lal Publishers, 1982, Rs 150.00

This book of Marshman is an abridgement of the History of India, which was originally in 3 volumes. The author has endeavoured to compress the substance of the three volumes into one, which will suffice to give the reader a view of the salient events of the different periods from 1400 B.C. to 1891 A.D.

Since the publication of the original work a new system of spelling Indian names designated in trans-literal has been introduced in India which in some cases differs so materially from that of the present abridgement and has been brought down to the close of the administration of the East India Company, and the annexation of the empire of India to the Crown of Great Britain, which forms one of the most important epochs in Indian history. In the present edition, important events from the death of Lord Mayo in 1872 to the close of the year 1891, have been chronicled by a member of the author's family which has hitherto been in vogue that it is not easy to identify the places or persons. For the convenience of the native student, the two forms of spelling are placed.

PLANNED DEVELOPMENT IN NEPAL : A STUDY, by Sriram Poudyal, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 60.00

Nepal since its inception in 1956 has been struggling hard to achieve rapid economic growth and improve the living conditions of the people through planned development. By now five periodic plans have been completed and the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85) is under implementation.

All the plans stressed on the need to raise growth rate, develop agriculture, industry, transport and social services and create a just and exploitationless society. But for lack of consolidated studies the achievements are not precisely known. In an effort to overcome this lacuna, this volume has been planned to examine the growth performance of the Nepalese economy measured in terms of GDP with particular emphasis on the development of agriculture and industry and reduction in the poverty, inequality and unemployment.

The author has raised several basic questions including why majority of the people are under severe hardships and are below the poverty line and why the country has been unable to develop despite the heavy inflow of foreign assistance. The author concludes that if decisive measures are not adopted within a few years, the crisis would be unavoidable.

INDIAN PHILOSOPHY: PAST & FUTURE by S.S. Rama Rao Pappu and R. Puligendla, Motilal Banarsidass, 1982, Rs 125.00

These kinds of books are primarily concerned with informing the philosophic community at home and abroad as to the types of problems occupying contemporary Indian Philosophers, their methods and orientation and their proposed solutions. The main aim of the present book is to obtain answers to the following questions—what is the relation between philosophical tradition and contemporary philosophical thinking in India ? where should Indian philosophy go from wherever it is now ?

The main purpose for selecting only Indian contributors is that philosophers in India and outside will have a chance to learn what Indian philosophers think of their own tradition, its encounter with modernity and its future. The essays in the book are placed under three main divisions. The tradition of Indian philosophy, modernity and the future of Indian philosophy. This collection of essays is thus an example of a philosophic activity in one of its best senses : becoming conscious of one's own tradition and a vision of the future.

INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE by K.R. Srinivas Iyengar & Prema Nandakumar, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 80.00

This book combines diverse elements like literary theory, linguistic and literary history and the history of ideas that are relevant to the study and enjoyment of literature. The book is divided into three parts. The first deals with backgrounds and approaches and probes the pervasive influence of the classical tradition and the Hebraic Christian inspiration. Part two is on the literary forms: the Epic, Drama (Tragedy and Comedy) prose, fiction, and the lyric and the Essay. Part three is on Form and Spirit and has chapters on classical and Romantic, "Diction Rhythm and Metre, and Style".

While the main emphasis is on the study of English literature (and literature in English) in terms of Western critical categories, there are also purposeful references to literature in other languages, classical and modern, and to the criteria enunciated in Indian treatises on poetics. The total aim of the book is simply to help the student and even the common reader to view litearture in its varied extrinsic forms and appropriate backgrounds, and also to see it in its true inwardness and universality.

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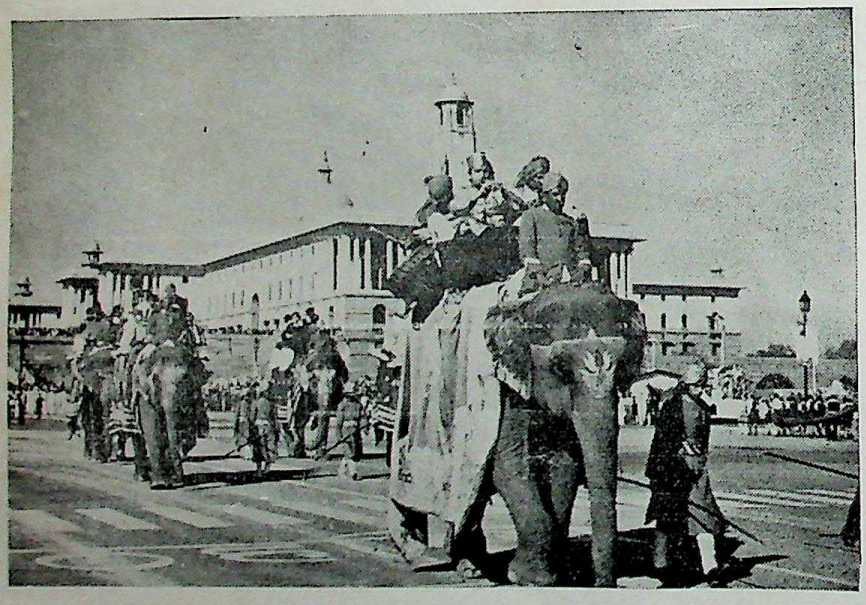

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Vol. XXVII No. 2 *November 1982*

INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY

Book Production and Distribution Journal

Editor-in-Chief
O.P. GHAI

Advertising Director
S.K. GHAI

Production Incharge
P. DIAS

Monthly Listing Editor
KRISHAN GOPAL

INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY
Is published monthly by Sterling Publishers Pvt Ltd., L-10, Green Park Extension, New Delhi 110016.

Advertising & Subscription Agents

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Mr. Warren E. Ball
Intercontinental Marketing Corp.
No 5, Work Building
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Subscription Rates

	Indian	*Foreign*	
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Printed and published by Shri O.P. Ghai at Sterling Printers, L-11, Green Park Ext., New Delhi 110016

CONTENTS

INDO-FRENCH BOOK EXCHANGES—A BEGINNING 5
—*Abul Hasan*

INAUGURATION OF FRENCH BOOK CENTRE IN DELHI 10

READ YOUR WAY UP THE SINGAPORE STYLE 11
—*Vijay C. Katkar*

PUBLISHING HIGHER EDUCATIONAL JOURNALS 15
—*Taj Rawat*

GABRIEL GARCIA MARQUEZ— A Profile 17

THE BOOK PUBLISHING INDUSTRY IN SRI LANKA FROM 1965 to 1980 19

FEDERATION NEWS 21

NEWS & EVENTS 22

MONTHLY LISTING 25

BOOK REVIEWS 37

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Indo-French Book Exchanges--A Beginning

*ABUL HASAN**

Item I-B 5 of the Cultural Exchange Programme between India and France for the year 1982-83 reads as follows:—

"Both sides will facilitate contacts and exchange of books/publications and information between national organisations of book publishers in either country and for this purpose, both sides may exchange visits of a delegation of 2-3 publishers from each country for a period up to one month for discussions, visits and exchange of experience".

In implementation of this item a delegation of Indian publishers consisting of the following visited France between 13th and 22nd October, 1982:—

Shri Vishwanath,
Chairman,
Vision Books Pvt. Ltd.,
New Delhi.
Representative—Federation of Indian Publishers.

Shri Sunil Sachdev,
Director,
M/s Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd.,
New Delhi.

Representative—Federation of Publishers and Booksellers Associations in India.

Shri Abul Hasan,
Special Officer (Book Promotion),
Ministry of Education & Culture,
New Delhi.
Government of India,
Liaison Officer.

Growing Use of English

While France is basically a mono-lingual country and French is the main language of use in administration, commerce and education, English occupies an important place in the country particularly after the Second World War. Over the last two decades France has been playing a leading role in international trade and in the development of new technologies resulting in a new awareness and acceptance of the role of English as an important international link language. There seems to be an expanding market for English language books in France.

The main reason why the demand for English books will continue to grow in France is the desire of an increasing number of French people to learn English. The knowledge of English is now regarded as essential in industry and commerce as well as in education and administration. Many French companies are devoting a proportion of their turnover to further education programmes for their employees and the overwhelming demand is for English courses. In those areas where advance research work can gain international distribution only in English, French scholars are writing papers in English. They are now beginning to perceive the English language as a means by which their work can become known to the world outside France or French-speaking countries. The French scholars are showing greater interest in obtaining English books and now seem to be much less restricted by linguistic or cultural barriers.

Although there is very little English taught in pre-primary and primary schools in France, a foreign language becomes obligatory in the secondary school system as well as at the university level. It is estimated that at the secondary school and higher education levels 80 to 90 per cent of the pupils opt for the study of English as a foreign language.

The Book Scene in France

The book publishing industry is well-organised in France. With an average production of 30,000 titles per year, France is among the six largest book producing countries of the world. Literary works occupy almost one-third of the total book production followed by juvenile literature and humanities. Literature also occupies the highest place both in the matter of translation from French into foreign languages and *vice-versa*. As far as print-runs are concerned, the highest number is that of encyclopaediae and dictionaries followed by literature and school books. The highest turnover of the French book trade is again accounted for by literature (about 25 per cent) followed by encyclopaediae, dictionaries and school books. As far as foreign trade in books is concerned the total value of books imported in 1978 into France other than books in French, was about $ 20 million, the UK and USA being the largest suppliers with about 25 per cent and 21 per cent of the share respectively. As far as India is concerned, the total value of exports of publications to France was Rs 2,82,751 and the value of imports from France was Rs 7,13,274 in 1979-80.

Delegation's Itinerary

Since this was the first visit of an Indian delegation of publishers to France, the objective of the visit

* Special Officer (Book Promotion), Department of Education, Ministry of Education & Culture, Government of India.

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was, as indicated under item I-B 5, to facilitate and exchange publications and information between the national organisations of book publishers. There was lot of information gap about the potential of one another's books that could be used in the other country. Apart from translating other's books in the language(s) of the user country for which there appears to be a maximum scope, possibilities were to be explored for the import and export of books in original languages, publication of co-editions of books and utilisation of printing capacity for the mutual benefit of both countries. The whole approach was to be broad-based and made with a national angle. Once the horizon was clear and areas of mutual collaboration identified, the individual publishers/booksellers could negotiate terms directly with their counterparts in the other country for specific titles.

The programmes of visit of the delegation was drawn up by the Ministry of External Relations of France (Director-General for Cultural, Scientific and Technical Relations). The delegation visited large and medium size publishers and also local booksellers. Besides, the concerned Ministries of the French Government, some professional organisations of the French book industry and non-commercial organisations were also visited.

Although most of the book publishing activities in France are concentrated in Paris it was considered desirable to make a visit to some provincial publishers also. Hence a day time visit was arranged to *Editions Privat* at Toulouse which is more than a small-size publishing and bookselling organisation in south of France.

Professional Associations

It may be worth mentioning some of the activities of the professional associations visited by the delegation. The most important professional associations of the book industry in France are—the *Cercle de La Librairie* and *Syndicat National de l'Edition*. The *Cercle* is stated to be France's great umbrella organisation run jointly by different professions of the book industry viz. publishers, booksellers, printers, paper manufacturers etc. It provides a number of essential services to its members and general public and produces bibliographical information like "Books in Print". It is a kind of National Book Development Council of France, though it is run entirely by the private sector.

A meeting of the delegation was fixed with the other body, viz. *Syndicat National de l'Edition* which is a professional association of French publishers. It represents 400 regular members who are large or medium-size publishers dealing with special fields of publishing like medical books, technical books, text books, children books etc. The *Syndicat* also advises 600 to 700 small publishers who are not its regular members. The *Syndicat* undertakes research on subjects related to the book trade and has a number of committees and councils on different aspects such as copyright, export promotion. It is also a member of the International Publishers Assotion.

Another professional association that was visited by the delegation was UDEF-Export (*Union D'Editours Francais Exportateurs*). About 100 medium and small size publishers specialising in social sciences, poetry, religion, sports etc. are members of this Union. The main activity of the Union is to help distributing the books of their members at home and abroad. As such the Union is interested in exporting French books to India.

There are several other big and small professional associations related to the French book industry e.g. Syndicates and Associations of libraries, booksellers, importers and exporters and those concerned with the French literature, documentation, public relations etc.

Whlie translation seems to be the main area of collaboration between India and France in the field of publishing, there are many other aspects which came to light during the visit of the Indian delegation, which also offer scope of bilateral collaboration viz. publicity, publishing and printing and import and export. All these aspects have been dealt with separately in the following paragraphs.

Publicity and Promotion

As pointed out earlier, there is a lot of information gap about the books produced in either country and therefore their potential for each other. There is a lot of scope of French books for the teaching of French language in India. Translation of French titles especially at the higher level may also be useful in not only scientific and technical disciplines but also in humanities and literature. A large number of periodicals in technical fields are being published in France mostly in French but also in English, some of which could be used in India with advantage.

As far as Indian books are concerned, there is obviously a good scope for our books on typically Indian or oriental subjects like culture, fine arts, religion, yoga etc. The French reader is also having a growing interest in our literature, and our outstanding fiction both in English and Indian languages could be translated into French. There is also a growing interest of French tourists in India and there is a dearth of tourist literature about India in France.

During the course of the visit of the delegation, besides specimen copies of some of our books a lot

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of publicity and information literature was distributed to the French book industry personnel. It included the latest annotated catalogue of Indian books 1979-81 published by the National Book Trust, the latest issue of the quarterly journal 'Recent Indian Books', and the folder 'Indian Books in a World Market'. The folder was also handed over to the Indian Embassy for being translated into French and published in the monthly journal brought out by the Indian Embassy. The French side also handed over to the Indian delegation lot of information material (mostly in French) concerning the activities of French publishers and select lists of titles published in France. There are many book trade journals and reference books published in France which provide latest information about the publishing activity in France.

There is need for extensive publicity of the book publishing activity of the other country on either side. As far as France is concerned a French Book Centre has been opened in New Delhi and will be inaugurated shortly on the occasion of the French President's visit to New Delhi. France also participates in the World Book Fairs being organised by the National Book Trust. Consideration may be given to the opening of an Indian book centre in Paris and organisation of special exhibitions of Indian books in France in collaboration with the Indian Embassy. The private sector on either side may also exchange catalogues, book trade journals and other reference material for one another's information.

Translation

Translation offers maximum scope for the publishers of the two countries. As far as Indian books are concerned, the French publishers have shown considerable interest in translating Indian books on fiction, modern literary works, apart from the traditional Indian subjects. One of the well known publishers of France, *Flammarion* are already doing translation of *Mahabharata* and are interested in translating Indian books on our culture, and civilization. Another publisher, *Seuil* wants to do a book on Nepal and is also interested in publishing informative literature for French tourists visiting India. There are many universities in France with Chairs relating to Indian studies who may want to use Indian books on current political and economic matters. Some publishers may like to publish bilingual dictionaries (French-Hindi and other Indian languages). Although the French readers have been rather traditional people who would like to move securely within the broad parameter of their own culture, there is an increasing desire to read the oriental literature on the abovementioned subjects specially if it is available in their own language.

So far as French books are concerned we can translate, with adaptation where necessary, French books for the higher level of education specially in scientific and technical fields and also reference books and encyclopaediae on special subjects for which France is well known. Our translation can either be in English or in Indian languages. Many French publishers are interested in reaching Asian and African markets through India, for apart from English in which our publishing is very strong, many of our languages are used in other countries e.g. Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Bengali etc. Translation rights for many French titles have already been granted to British publishers with whom the French publishers would like us to get in touch for reprinting those English translations in India.

Before the delegation left for France, an agreement had been reached between India and France to undertake translation of the classical and contemporary literature and works in Social Sciences, in one another's languages. Indeed there is a scheme being operated by the French Embassy in New Delhi under which a subsidy exists for the translation of French books into Indian languages. It is understood that the Ministry of Culture of France also provides subsidy for translation of French books. The National Art Centre of France is stated to provide assistance for the translation of foreign works in French language. Since these subsidy programmes are not well known, there is need for publicising widely the details of these schemes for the benefit of publishers on both sides.

Since Indo-French collaboration in publishing is a new endeavour, the Indian delegation felt that in addition to subsidy for translations it would be necessary to provide financial assistance towards the cost of production of books atleast in India. Subsidy on production is considered necessary atleast initially to break a new ground and to reduce the price to the Indian reader whose purchasing power is low. An important step in undertaking translations would be to identify the titles which are worthy of translation. Some of them may be commercially viable, while others may be desirable from cultural angle. The Indian Embassy in France, in an *Aide Memoire* sent to the French Ministry of Culture recently, has *inter-alia* included a small list of titles which could be translated into one another's language. This is a good beginning and the list could be expanded in consultation with knowledgeable people on both sides. For this purpose a working group may be set up on both sides to prepare the list of suitable titles and work out other details. Later, a joint group can meet to monitor the whole programme and review it

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from time to time.

Co-publishing and Printing

Almost all the books published in France are printed in France. However, a few of the French books relating to the learning of the French language are printed in India hrough *Alliance Francaise*. Since the cost of printing in France is very high French publishers are interested in collaboration with Indian publishers relating to co-editions of certain types of books in English which could be published by an Indian counterpart for local consumption as well as export to Asian and African countries. Indeed many French publishers are having co-publication arrangements with publishers in Britain and other countries. Among those which were visited by the delegation, *Hachette*, *Larcusse*, *Flammarion*, *Bordas* and *Maison des Sciences de l'Homme* were operating co-publication programmes with foreign publishers.

There is considerable scope for co-editions in illustrated books. French publishers are sufficiently strong in editorial matters but have bottle-necks with illustrated books which are rather expensive because outstanding illustrators are few and expensive. Children's books and books on nature and animals and encyclopaediae offer a good scope for co-publication with French publishers. Opportunities for co-publication also exist in the field of dictionaries and quality art books.

Since the printing cost in France is high, the French publishers may be attracted to have their books printed in India atleast for export to Asian and African markets. One leading French publisher, *Bordas* has shown interest in meeting high quality Indian printers who could handle their printing jobs.

Import and Export

At present the quantum of international book trade with France is very small. However, the value of international trade in books could be increased manifold if adequate publicity and promotion efforts are made to remove the information gap about the types of books being published in one another's country and to identify the buyers.

As regards the sale of Indian books in France, the maximum scope is for English language books. There is a strong book-buying tradition among French readers whose purchasing power is high enough to absorb foreign books including books from India. Incidentally the sale of books in France is subject to Value Added Tax (VAT) @ 7%. The most effective promotion of Indian books would be the one done in collaboration with a local bookseller. This could be done through special mailings or special exhibitions of Indian books. There is an important wholesaler of English books in Paris viz. *Nouveau Quartier Latin*, 78 Blvd Saint-Michel, 75006—Paris. They specialise in English books mostly paperbacks and children literature. Another important bookseller from our point of view is *L'Asiatheque*, 6 rue Christine, 75006—Paris, who specialise in books emanating from Asia. The delegation had an interesting discussion with the latter in regard to the sale and publicity of Indian books in Paris. This firm is willing to organise a special exhibition of Indian books in Paris and has even offered to provide free space for the purpose. The firm was strongly of the opinion that apart from display of Indian books there should be proper arrangements for the sale of Indian titles at this exhibition.

Apart from Paris, the provincial market accounts for only a small fraction of English books. Most of their demands are met by the distributors and wholesalers in Paris. Only one provincial firm was visited by the delegation which was a medium size publishing and bookselling organisation viz. *Privat* in Toulouse. Most of the books handled by the firm were in French, although the firm showed interest in Indian books also especially on psychology and sociology.

As far as the import of French books into India is concerned, there appears to be some demand of French books in Pondicherry as well as in those universities where French is taught as a foreign language. There is again a lot of ignorance about the availability and the nature of French books, which will be removed to some extent by the opening of the French Book Centre in New Delhi. Many of the French publishers wanted to know the addresses of the Indian wholesalers and booksellers who would be interested in importing French or English books from France e.g. *Hachette*, *Bordas*, *Hatier*. The possibility of re-exporting these books from India to South East Asia and South Asia could also be explored. The main export promotion agency for French books is UDEF-Export which also participates in the World Book Fairs organised by the National Book Trust.

Follow-up Action

The first ever visit of an official delegation of Indian publishers to France has brought out many points on which action can be initiated on both sides. A delegation of French publishers is due to visit India shortly under the same programme on a reciprocal basis. It is hoped that the delegation will pick up the thread and have further discussions and exchange of ideas and information with the Indian book industry and its professional associations. While a long-term programme may be drawn up in the light of the findings of the two delegations, some follow-up action which needs to be

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taken immediately is indicated below:

1. A vigorous promotion campaign for Indian books be organised to bring our potential to the notice of French publishers and readers. It would be economic and practical to plan the organisation of exhibition of Indian books in Paris immediately after the Frankfurt Book Fair of 1983 from where Indian books could be diverted to Paris for the purpose. The Indian Embassy in Paris may be requested to do the necessary spade-work viz. arranging a site for the exhibition, preparing cost estimates, doing necessary advance publicity and so on. Some of the Indian publishers/booksellers may accompany the book exhibition to sell books and negotiate deals at the time of the exhibition;

2. In addition to the above, the Indian Embassy in Paris may consider organising displays of selected Indian books in prominent places in Paris. e.g. universities, commercial and cultural centres and Indian tourist office;

3. Select lists of French and Indian publishers and booksellers be drawn up by the professional association of the book industry on both sides indicating the firms who would be interested in translating and selling one another's books;

4. Suitable titles on either sides be identified which could be undertaken for translation/adaptation for publication in the other country. The lists prepared by the Indian Embassy may be taken as the starting point in this regard and developed in consultation with knowledgeable people. For this purpose a working group consisting of the representatives of the book industry and academic and cultural institutions be set up on either side. Later on a joint group can be constituted to meet periodically to monitor the programme and review it from time to time;

5. The opening of the French Book Centre is a welcome step to bring suitable books to the notice of Indian reader. This effort may be supplemented by larger participation of French publishers in the World Book Fair at New Delhi and frequent visits of the French book industry personnel to India;

6. Information regarding the subsidy available for translation of foreign books in France and French books in Indian languages be disseminated widely so that the Indian book industry avails itself of it wherever appropriate. Considerations may also be given to making subsidy available for the production of those translations which may not be commercially viable but have cultural potential;

7. The Federation of Master Printers of India may draw up a schedule of rates at which they would be willing to undertake printing jobs from France and send it to professional publishers' organisations in France through the Indian Embassy in Paris; and

8. The professional associations of the book industry on either side may establish direct contacts and undertake collective publicity for their members by mailing their catalogues, publicity material and informative literature to the other side.

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Inauguration of French Book Centre in Delhi

Within the framework of the French President's visit to India from the 27th to 30th November 1982, two delegations of French Publishers have arrived in Delhi.

The official delegation comprises of the following publishers with the areas of their specialisation.

Mr A. Thiollier Asiatheque 6, Rue Christine 75006 Paris	Publications on Asia Archaeology, History Linguistics, Religion
Mr Suaudeau Editions Privat 14, Rue des Arts 31000 Toulouse	Archaeology, Ethnology Folklore, Geography, History Medicine, Philosophy, Psychology, Economics, Political Science

Another delegation of 10 publishers and other persons connected with the book trade have also arrived during the same period, in their private capacity.

Their brief particulars are given below :

Mr Michel FAVIER, Head of the Book Section at the Ministry of External Affairs

Miss E. FILIPPI, from the Ministry of External Affairs

Mr Bernard NICOLAIEFF, Counsellor in the Ministry of Foreign Trade

Mr Paul MONNET, Director of U.D.E.F-Export (Federation of French Publishers)

Mr Alain LEVY, Publisher from Editions Rene Baudouin (specialising in Arts and Crafts, Humour, Painting, Poetry, Religion, Erotica) and Bookseller.

Mrs S. SIEFFERT, Publisher, from Presses Orientalistes de France (specialists in Encyclopedias, Education, Ethnology, Folklore, Geography, Oriental studies, History, etc...)

Mr Jean-Pierre PINARDON, Publisher from Maisonneuve et Larose (specialising in Archaeology, Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, Ethnology, Architecture, History, Philosophy, Religion, Philosophy)

Mr Jean-Pierre VIVET, Editor of LIVRES-HEBDO, the most important book journal in France.

The two delegations will attend the inauguration of the FRENCH BOOK CENTER at A-3, New Defence Colony Shopping-cum-Office Complex. The Inauguration which will take place on the 29th November will be done by Her Excellency Madame MITTERRAND, the wife of the French President.

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Read Your Way up the Singapore Style*

VIJAY C KATKAR**

'Read your way up', this was a slogan aimed at the general public, especially younger children and their parents, at the 14th Festival of Book Fair held at Singapore from 4 to 12 September 1982. The event is an annual feature jointly organised by the National Book Development Council of Singapore and Singapore Book Publishers Association. This is one of the activities of NBDCS and SBPA in the field of book promotion that are going on in Singapore.

One of the main objectives of the NBDCS is to promote book-mindedness among the people at large. From this point of view, the Council organised a National Readership Survey and a Regional Seminar on the promotion of reading habit.

As a follow up action, the Council launched a National Reading Month from August 13 to September 12, 1982 which was called the most ambitious project of the Council by Mrs. Hedwig Anuar, the chairman of the Council. The National Reading Month was synchronised with the Singapore Festival of Books and Book Fair—1982. The theme of the National heading Month was, "Read with your child." It is remarkable that the campaign was supported by the National Trade Union Congress and was sponsored by the Singapore Labour Foundation.

The campaign was mainly aimed at the pre-schoolers. The Council feels that no one is too young to read and believes that a baby of eight months is old enough to be introduced to the world of books. During the campaign, leaflets on how to make reading enjoyable were distributed. The National Library compiled a list of 50 popular picture titles for the parents to identify and acquire suitable books for their children. The campaign was also focussed on teachers of pre-schoolers and staff of the National Trade Union Congress childcare centres. Teachers and staff are in a position to encourage young children to read. The Council organised a series of thirteen workshops for adults including parents, teachers and staff of the N.T.U.C. childcare centres. Each workshop was to consist of 25 participants to learn the technique of story-telling to the young. NTUC childcare centres are also expected to launch NTUC Parent Education Home Reading Project. The project would be of more than six months and aims at educating parents on the importance of reading to, and with their children at home.

Other organisations are supporting the campaign for the promotion of reading habit among other age groups. The Ministry of Education was to encourage all schools and junior colleges to hold book-promotion activities. National University of Singapore was given the task of organising programmes also for undergraduates. The National Library was categorising light fiction books and launched a project 'Read a book a day." Other organisations like Library Association of Singapore and Singapore Broadcasting Corporation were also reported to be associated with the campaign.

Some experts were invited from Britain and Japan to conduct workshops/courses. Other activities were story-telling, book related film shows, word games, reading games, poetry reading and writing sessions, play reading, dramatisation charades, puppet shows, public talks on book/authors, essay writing competition, etc. and a list of activities was prepared by the Council with an appeal to all professional and civic organisations to support the National Reading Month.

Mrs Anuar, the chairman of NBDCS, revealed some interesting observations with regard to some of the programmes. She mentioned, "The response of the parents to the workshop has been most heartening. They have been enthusiastic, highly motivated, almost anxiously eager to learn how to read and tell stories to their children. They have been

*The views expressed in this article are the personal views of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Government of India.

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**Export Promotion Officer, Department of Education, Ministry of Education & Culture, Government of India.

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introduced to the range of good children's books of which they were previously unaware. They have experienced the joy of sharing a story with their child. They overcome their shyness for approaching a teacher or children's librarian for advice on their children's reading. Already some of them are coming back to the library with their children for more books to read together at home." She feels that this trend will grow as more workshops were being conducted and more parents get the message and develop the habit of reading and telling a story to their children every day.

Apart from the Regional Seminar on promotion of the Reading Habit and the National Reading Month, Seminar on the Challenges Facing Book Publishers in the Eighties (in Mandarin) and Asian Conference of Editors were organised jointly by the Council and SBPA. There were at least a dozen other book promotion activities by NBDCS either independently or in co-ordination with other organisations.

On the occasion of the opening of the 14th Festival of Books and Book Fair, the Council also presented book awards for works by Singaporeans published between 1980 and 1981 in the fields of fiction, non-fiction, poetry and children's books. Some of the best works of the local book designers and illustrators were also on display during the fair at the function room of the World Trade Centre.

Dr Ahmed Matter AG Minister for Social Affairs, pointed out in his inaugural speech at the opening of the Festival of Books and Book Fair, "The path up the reading ladder must be continued after one mastered the basic reading skills. In many countries adult new literates have lapsed into illiteracy because they did not have the right kind of reading material available. We must ensure that this does not happen in Singapore." The NBDCS and other educational organisations are certainly taking care of this though illiteracy is not more than ten per cent in Singapore. This is more relevant in the developing countries like India.

In India, National Book Trust (NBT), an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Education and Culture, has been established in 1957. One of the aims of the NBT is to create book-mindedness among the people. Obviously India's need is more acute than that of Singapore in the field of books and the promotion of reading habit. The National Book Trust should organise such creative activities. 1982, Silver Jubilee Year of the Trust, offers excellent opportunity for the Trust to launch a National Reading Month or allied activities. Organising a few of book exhibitions or occasionally a workshop or an essay competition does not seem adequate enough for such a vast country.

Book Fair

World Trade Centre is a prominent place in Singapore where important trade fairs are organised throughout the year. The Festival of Books and Book Fair is also organised in the premises of the same building. Though the size of the fair is not very large, the publishers of the Republic of China (Taiwan), Indonesia, India, Korea, Thailand and Philippines are participating regularly and therefore, it is a unique event for the publishers, book exporters, buyers, and the other organisations dealing with the educational aids. However, this year for the first time the publishers of USA, New Zealand, and Denmark also participated in the fair. It had 261 stands taken by 84 exhibitors. These figures do not indicate the number of the publishers/dealers who have visited the fair for their business deals without taking any stand. The fair has no entrance fee and it was estimated by the fair authorities that about 3,28,000 people visited the fair during 9 days. Cash sale of books worth Singapore $920,000.00 was made.

India is participating in the fair since 1973 and gradually the number of Indian participants is also growing. We are exporting text books on Engineering, Science, Management, Planning, Books on Art and Culture, Religion, Philosophy, Yoga etc. to Singapore. There seems to be a good demand for the literature of Rabindra Nath Tagore, Indian literature (particularly Indian Poetry), Indian cookery, and books on South East Asia. This year CBT also participated in the fair and it was proved that much more demand can be created for the books of children's interest. Imports of Indian books in Singapore for the period from January to December 1981 was as under:— (*)

1. Text books	S$	1,141,000.00
2. Journals & other periodicals	S$	143,000.00
3. Other printed books & booklets	S$	347,000.00
Total	S$	1,631,000.00
Approx	Rs	78,288,800.00

However, the books and printed matter imported by Singapore during the same period is worth S$ 66,088,000.00. (*) This shows the potentiality of Singapore book market. The main source of books for Singapore is the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. Being comparatively low in prices, the demand for Indian books can be increased by raising the production standard and sustained export efforts. One important point must

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(*) *Source* : Singapore Trade Statistics Import and Export 1981.

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be borne in mind that the Singaporeans are very much quality conscious about books. The reason is obvious. The book industry of Singapore itself is highly advanced. Their books are very well printed, produced and equally well bound; moreover the prices are moderate. Blurred printing, substandard paper or loose binding irritates the Singaporeans. Therefore, another way of promoting Indian books in this market is co-publishing. This would raise the production standard and also reduce cost. Some of the publishing houses from the UK and the USA have taken steps in this direction and a few have already been brought out.

With a view to boost the export of Indian books in this market, we must open an Indian Book Centre in Singapore. To make the books popular, it is necessary that the books also must be available for ready purchase of the buyer. Such a centre will also cater to the needs of the other South-East Asian countries. The centre will publicise and promote the Indian books, will supply books when and where they are required. If it is not possible for the FPBAI and FIP to establish such a centre, the CAPEXIL can do it in collaboration with the Government for the promotion of Indian books in the region of South-East Asia. Dr Selvaratnam, Director, Regional Institute of Higher Education and Development and Mr S. Gopinathan, Ex-Chairman of NBDCS also emphasised this point. If we want to compete effectively with the books of the UK and the USA, this is one of the most essential steps.

Similarly, our latest annotated catalogues should be mailed to the National Library, Central Library of the National University of Singapore and other important organisations.

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Publishing Higher Educational Journals

TAJ RAWAT

Higher educational publishing in third world countries has been a main problem due to lack of sophisticated and modernised printing technology, which in developed countries is most advanced and highly scientific with high capacity and modernized equipment. The developing countries have produced very good authors and intellectuals but the major problem they face today is the lack of proper communication and publishing in a very modernized and sophisticated style which the authors and publishers from developed countries do not face today. Even then, they are producing excellent editions of academic journals with the collaboration of the world's well known publishing houses.

There should be a scholarly flow of educational publishing in the third world countries with academic and sophisticated writing and intellectual communication among the literateurs and authors of repute says P. Altbach, the well known educationist of Educational Foundation of the United States.

There are various newspapers, journals and magazines about educational planning and higher educational activities in India. But, do they fulfil the requirements of the scholars and students of the Indian universities? Or do they reflect the real prospects of Indian educational society? It is a matter of serious concern for our scholars and educationists in the Indian sub-continent. In some respects, Indian academicians and scholars have been successful in this mission to some extent but should we rely on a handful of journals, published in our country, though, there is a great need of such publishing on every subject in a country like ours.

Among the higher educational journals published in India are 'Journal of Higher Education' from University Grants Commission, a unique quarterly on academic and scholarly writings. 'Educational Quarterly' is also a blueprint in the field of educational planning published from the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs, mostly encouraging intelligent authors from various fields of education and culture. 'University News' published from Universities Association of India is also a blueprint for success for the research scholars. This fortnightly journal is very popular among the university teachers and students from whole of the country. The journal contains simple and juicy articles based on the educational planning and development in India, giving research and educational news and reviews in brief from all over the country, written by well known professors and academicians. Most of the articles contain genuine ideas and concrete suggestions on the educational planning and research work in India as well as abroad.

'Journal of Indian Education' mainly deals with current trends, educational practices and policies in school education. 'Indian Educational Review' is one of the top journals in the field of educational research in India with a balanced coverage. These journals are edited under the supervision of a noted scholar Dr R.P. Singh in National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), an educational institution for the propagation of educational planning and development in the country. Educational Review mainly deals with the higher educational research work and its evaluation and news and reviews about higher studies.

'Indian Literature', an excellent quarterly on literature is edited by a well known poet Keshav Malik from Sahitya Academy. For the last one decade India has made a tremendous progress in the field of art, culture, literature and several other human activities. Sangeet Natak Academy also produces a quarterly 'Sangeet Natak' and Lalit Kala Academy produces an art magazine on contemporary art, culture and artists of India.

'Alternatives', an academic journal on International affairs and international educational ideas with a genuine tilt of social change is edited by a prominent Gandhian and internationally known political scientist Dr Rajani Kothari. This journal gives news and views in the shape of essay and articles. 'Gandhi Marg' is also an academic journal on Gandhian ideas produced by Gandhi Peace Foundation, a reputed voluntary organisation for rural change in India. 'Design' is a journal on interior decoration, design and architectural engineering in India as well as abroad which mainly highlights the developments in the field of design in the Indian sub-continent after independence.

The journals published from the Indian Institute of Management and National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad are also of unique status but there is a great need to develop and popularise these publications through news and review media.

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'Indian Wild Life' mainly reflects about wild life in India, its present and future prospects with correct studies on forest life. 'The Chemical Times' the most popular weekly of Bombay's chemical industry is of its own kind of weekly which gives an account of various chemical and research work. Among the top travel journals 'Indramma', 'Bushika' 'Signature', 'Destination India', 'Swagatam', 'The India Magazine', are unique examples in the field of travel journalism in India. Particularly 'Bushika' is planning an international campaign to boost the tourism in the developing countries including India. It is also interesting to note that Design and Fashion Magazines have flooded the market. For example 'Inside Outside' a bimonthly edited by Mallika Sarabhai is an unique piece on interior decoration. 'Gentlemen Fashion' edited by Minaz; 'Forecast Fashion' by Poonam Mehrotra, are among the commercial journals to boost interior decoration and fashion image in India as well as abroad.

'Movie' and 'Take Two' are two film magazines which boast of high circulation and wide readership. Shobha Kilachand's 'Celebrity' is an unique example of its kind as this highlights intellectual image and some tit bits with prominent personalities all over the country.

'India Abroad' a weekly on international politics and mass communication is published by Gopal Raju from New York. This weekly is mainly dealing with the Indian intellectuals and persons residing abroad. 'Indian Overseas' published by S.K. Sital from Hongkong is a journal of unique charm which highlights the affairs on overseas Indian community. 'India Weekly' from Britain is also an excellent production of its kind which is considered among the best news weeklies from abroad. 'India Abroad' is a weekly of liberal ideas with the readership of more than one lac. 'Freedom First', edited by prominent poet and philosopher, Nissim Ezekiel and 'Imprint' is edited by a well known journalist and critic Arun Gandhi. The journal is based on Gandhian values and broad Indian culture. There is a community monthly : 'Parsiana' edited and published by a young Parsi journalist Jehangir Patel, which is an excellent example of journalism in India. This journal reflects the ideas and views of the Parsi community in India as well as abroad. 'Himmat' was also based on Gandhian principles but now it is closed down due to some economic circumstances. 'Gandhi Marg' is a monthly journal on broad-based Gandhian and social values, which mainly highlights the views of those working in the field of spreading Gandhian revolution and truthful ideals all over the world.

The 'Canadian India Times' published from Ottawa is also a weekly reflecting the views and news on the Indian community residing in Canada. Some time before this weekly proved a landmark success in Canada but due to some unknown circumstances the publication has ceased sine die.

The 'Indian P.E.N.' is a bimonthly journal (now defunct) published by All India P.E.N. Association for the propagation of Indo-Anglican writing mass communication, human rights and restoring press freedom in Indian sub-continent. Journal of Indian Writing in English is also a genuine production of Indian authors which has been highlighting the problems and hardships of Indian writing in English. The Journal is edited by Dr G.S. Balarama Gupta without any personal benefit. This journal has been a remarkable success since it emerged from the press. The journal is surviving on subscriptions from some poets, philosophers and scholars of English language. 'Rajasthan Journal of English', 'Teachers Journal of English Studies', 'Skylark', 'Unilit', 'Minimax', 'Indian Verse' are among the journals of modern English poetry and English studies and 'Aligarh Journal of English Studies' have progressed in a distinguished way for the last four years. 'Manthan' a journal on Indian Art and culture has been of great importance to the scholars and intellectuals who are engaged in advanced and scholarly studies of Hindu philosophy in India as well as abroad, particularly about the broad ancient Indian historical and cultural values.

'Communicator' is a bimonthly journal on mass communication in India, published by the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, highlighting the Institute's educational and cultural activities regularly in a prolific style. 'Vidura' is a monthly journal published by the Press Institute of India rejuvenating intellectual, cultural and journalistic freedom in India which often highlights the activities of free press in India as well as abroad.

Today, we are on the forefront of political crisis and democratic change, we should be able to publish more and more academic journals in a more sophisticated way. I agree with Professor Altbach's views that there should be a free flow of intellectual publishing among the developing countries for the social, educational, political and cultural uplift of their people. Today, great need is being realised of scholarly publishing in the third world countries which can be fulfilled by voluntary effort of some educationists and academicians in the concerned fields.

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Gabriel Garcia Marguez—A Profile

Winner of this Year's Nobel Prize for Literature

There was envy at the success of his masterpiece, **One Hundred Years of Solitude,** *alarm over his left-wing politics, and a well-bred Colombian distaste at his colourful language.*

Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the novelist who was recently awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, is the Prodigal Son of Colombia.

The imaginations of millions of Colombians are now working overtime on the Prodigal Son's return, which is going to have a lot of style, charged emotions, tears, a touch of farce, and a sure element of the fantastical : just like a Garcia Marquez novel.

The scene will be played out at Bogota's International Airport. The flight from Mexico where he has lived for many years, will arrive. He and his wife, will be enveloped in hugs and kisses by the President and First Lady. Colombia's stirring national anthem will be played, the military will salute, and huge crowds will cheer.

The event may even be blessed by sunshine. December is one of the few months when the sun filters through Bogota's bleak and chilly skies, a good month for the return of a homesick exile, and it is at Christmas that "Gabo," or "Gabito" as he is affectionately known, says he will be back.

Relations with his homeland have not always been so warm. There was envy at the huge success of his masterpiece, **One Hundred Years of Solitude**, first published in 1967; alarm over his left-wing politics and his friendship with Fidel Castro; and a well-bred Colombian distaste at his colourful language.

Garcia Marquez was born in 1928, in Aracataca, a small coastal town that owed its tenuous hold on prosperity to the nearby banana plantations. It was a remote sort of place. "There was a constant need for diversion," he says. "Jugglers, magicians and fire-eaters arrived and many things happened. The memory I have is of a hot, dusty and violent town. The weekends were a permanent fiesta when we virtually locked ourselves in the house. On Mondays there were corpses and wounded people lying in the streets."

Later Aracataca was transformed in Garcia Marquez's fiction into Macondo, the setting for **One Hundred Years of Solitude**. He left when he was only eight, on a scholarship to a boarding school near Bogota. "It was like a death because I lost my town, my people and my family —my way of acting, my culture which belonged to the Caribbean. I felt like a foreigner."

Everything in his books, he says, came from his experiences in Aracataca, living with his grandmother in a wooden house with a corrugated iron roof. It held a large and shifting population of family and visitors. "My grandfather had about 17 sons scattered all over the place whom he had fathered in the Civil War and they all kept coming home, riding mules and going to sleep in hammocks. We also kept open house to foreigners. The train arrived at 11 o'clock every morning and my grandmother always said : "We have to have meat and fish ready because we don't know who is going to come and what they would like."

The house was dominated by women, who kept the young boy quiet by warning him that if he moved at night, death or dead people would come out of every room. "When darkness fell. I would be terrified. It is something so deeply engraved in my mind that sometimes, when I am in hotels sleeping alone, I wake up in the middle of the night feeling that same terror which I felt as a child. I'm still afraid of the dark."

Small wonder that such a highly-charged childhood produced an imagination vivid in macabre and fantastic images, at once surreal and solidly down-to-earth. **One Hundred Years of Solitude** is the story of a family through six generations and

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a town from its founding to its apocalypse. It is a brilliant and crowded canvas that takes in the history of Colombia, the discovery of the Americas, and the domestic details of Garcia Marquez's own family; a novel that makes much of the current output of novelists writing in English seem thin and spineless.

Latin Americans were always enthusiastic about the book. Pablo Neruda, the Chilean poet who himself won the Nobel Prize, called it "perhaps the greatest revelation in the Spanish languages since the Don Quixote of Cervantes." English critics were less warm, at least to begin with, despite Garcia Marquez's own claim that the English translation of the book, by Gregory Rabassa, reads better than the Spanish original.

Critical opinions are warmer now. V.S. Pritchett regards Garcia Marquez as one of the world's great writers :

"The master weaver of the real and the conjectured. His descriptive power astounds at once. His prose is plain, exact, subtle and springly and easily leaps into the comical and exuberant."

For many years Garcia Marquez earned his living through journalism. As a young man he worked for a paper in Barranquilla, a steaming-hot port city, elements of which later reappeared in the fictional Macondo.

It is a city with a large black population, a vibrantly exciting atmosphere, and extreme poverty. He lived in a hotel frequented by prostitutes and learned that high local government officials"—their main clients—"did not come to make love but rather talk about themselves." It was a good base for work. "A writer needs a desert island in the morning and the big city at night. As William Faulkner once declared, the perfect home for a writer is a brothel—because in the morning hours it's always calm and in contrast at night there's always a party atmosphere."

Today his home is in an elegant suburb of Mexico City, though in Barcelona and briefly in London. He works in stifling heat, the thermostat deliberately set at a steaming 28°C, the tropical temperature in which he grew up and which he says he still needs to think.

Faulkner, Kafka and a grandfather who enchanted him by telling him fantastic tall stories—and from whom he seems to have inherited his own wild imagination—were the strongest literary influences.

He became a Socialist early in his youth : "I wish the world was Socialist and I think that sooner or later it will be." But he stresses that politics and literature must never be mixed, since the result is always bad literature. "The duty of a writer—the revolutionary duty if you like—is simply to write well."

President Mitterrand (a personal friend who is said to be obsessed by **One Hundred Years of Solitude**) sent a warm congratulatory telegram to Garcia Marquez, but it is doubtful if the present incumbent of the White House is as pleased. "That illiterate cowboy," as Garcia Marquez has called him, is "the most dangerous US President for Latin America in my lifetime, a man bent on keeping the region's military dictators firmly seated on their thrones of blood." It is perhaps not surprising that he has difficulty entering the US.

But some of his friends and literary colleagues, like Peruvian novelist Mario Vargas Llosa, have expressed concern that he is blind to repression in Cuba and only condems right-wing regimes. "Are there good torturers and bad torturers?" wonders Vargas Llosa.

However, Garcia Marquez has always backed his word with money. He founded and finances a Mexico-based human rights organisation for Latin America. For years he subsidised a left-wing weekly magazine in Bogota, despite the huge losses caused by an advertisers' boycott. Now he plans to plough most of the Nobel Prize money into a new Colombian daily newspaper to be launched early next year, a project which many Colombians believe shows that this time he is coming home for good.

His wife, Mercedes, a childhood sweetheart and mother of their two sons, is said to be eager to return, despite the threat to them from right-wing death squads and kidnap gangs.

The Nobel Prize, he swears, will not change him. "Never, in any circumstances have I forgotten that in the truth of my soul I am nothing more and nothing less than one of the 16 children of the Aracataca telegraph clerk."

His best book? On different occasions he has mentioned both **Nobody Writes to the Colonel**, a dry laconic novella, and his stylistic tour-de-force. **The Autumn of the Patriarch**. He is well satisfied with **One Hundred Years of Solitude**, but does not regard it as his best work. Now he is writing a love story ("not a tragic one, what we need now is happiness") and his memoirs.

Supersitition runs rife in Colombia's Caribbean region and in Garcia Marquez's novels, and some time ago he spoke of "the metaphisical terror" which he claimed gripped many great writers each year if they were touted for the Nobel because winners tend to survive no more than seven years. Now he jokes that he will attend the awards ceremony, not in evening dress but wearing a "guayabera," a uniquely Colombian word for the colourful tropical shirt favoured by men on the coast. It would be a characteristically exuberant gesture by a man who has never forgotten his roots.

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The Book Publishing Industry in Sri Lanka From 1965 to 1980

(A Study Commissioned by the National Book Council of Sri Lanka)

The National Book Development Council of Sri Lanka decided in February 1981 to initiate a study on the state of book publishing in the country from 1956 to 1980. This study was referred to the Marga Institute, but as reference material was available more conveniently at the National Bibliography Division of the National Library Services Board, the work was done there. At the very beginning, it was clear that 1956 was not a convenient point to start. The main reason for this difficulty was the absence of a bibliography prior to 1962. Information could have been collected from the Archives Department, but this was thought unnecessary as it was decided to confine the scope of the study to a statistical analysis of creative writing during this period, taking children's literature separately. This study is therefore more a statistical one than one going into details of content of publications, etc.

The National Bibliography of Sri Lanka commenced publishing under the Director of Archives only in 1962. It was therefore decided at the National Library Services Board to take the 15 year period (1965-1980) for the survey. Even here the year 1974 which marked the transfer of the compilation of the bibliography from the Department of Archives to the National Library Services Board has not been covered by the compilers. The following report therefore indicates the state of the publishing industry in relation to the topics selected from 1965 to 1980 (leaving out 1974); as revealed by the National Bibliography of Sri Lanka. The National Book Development Council has stated that their main objective in this study is to discover through it the paucity or otherwise of children's books in particular, while assessing the production of books in general.

It was not possible to undertake any detailed study of all publications with regard to quality and contents with the staff available at the National Library Services Board. It is hoped that what follows and the statistical table annexed will enable the National Book Development Council to get an idea of the publishing industry in Sri Lanka in the area of the production of books for general reading.

The annexed statement shows the statistics of the total number of publications, for the years mentioned, publications which would fall within the category of creative writing and children's literature.

According to the figures, the average number of publications per year within the period mentioned was 1376.8. When these are further separated by the language media, the average number of titles per year in Sinhala, Tamil and English were 690.6; 316.3 and 369.6 respectively. The average for literary production and children's books (shown as totals and as titles per language media) were as follows : Total average of creative writing—196. Average number of titles in Sinhala—158.3, Tamil—23.8 and English—13.9. When averages were worked out for children's literature, the following dismal figures emerged: Average for all languages 29.9, Sinhala 26.9; Tamil 1.2; English 1.7. These averages are per year.

Whatever the averages may show, the exact position is that there have been very lean years within the period, viz. 1966, 1967, 1975, 1976. The lowest number of publications have appeared in the year 1976. This seems to indicate a particular tendency. Whenever there were severe restrictions of foreign exchange, imports, etc., there has been a definite reduction in the output of books and perhaps in production in other spheres too. When the then government allowed OGL imports this was immediately reflected in the increase of publications from 893 titles in 1966 to 1347 titles in 1968. Correspondingly in the years 1975 and 1976 when the most stringent controls on imports and foreign exchange expenditure were enforced a decline of the publication figures resulted though these immediately rose with the policy of liberalization in 1977. The number of publications in 1977 was almost double that of 1976 and this kept on increasing in the years 1978 and 1979 and appears to reflect the results of the open trade policy of the present government. 1979 shows the highest figures for the 15-year period with 2703 publications. It does not, of course, mean that in this year a larger number of literary works or children's books were produced—this occurred in 1980 where out of the total of 1858 publications creative literature accounts for 277 and children's books for 82.

Creative literature itself is a small percentage of the total number of publications. In 1965, out

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of 1168 publications only 86 could be included in this category and of these 86 titles 35 were children's books, 34 of which were in Sinhala and one in Tamil.

The averages for the 15 years keep to this pattern, especially for children's literature with Sinhala books averaging 29.9 books per year. Tamil 1.2 books per year and English 1.7 books per year. English language children's books average was slightly higher than Tamil, though there were no books in English published at all in 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1970, 1972 and 1978. No children's books in Tamil appeared in 1972, 1975, 1977 and 1979.

Among children's books in Sinhala, the highest number of books appeared in 1980, with 77 books, and the lowest in 1973 with 9 books. In Tamil, the highest number 6, appeared in 1968 and for English the highest in 1969, also 6 books.

The general picture presented by the statistics for the 15 years may be considered representative even of the earlier years. But taking the country's development as the background against which book publishing takes place, or taking publishing of books as an industry which develops or recedes along with the rest of the country's industries, depending upon the availability of capital, raw material, foreign exchange, etc., the situation during 1965-1980 should be better than for any preceding era. Educational levels were higher, the population was greater, the literacy rate greater and the importance of national languages higher than ever. Hence, publications in Sinhala and Tamil should have been greater. But if in this period, the production was so poor it is necessary to ask what was wrong with book publishing in the country ? Was this a reflection of widespread poverty which did not enable parents to buy books for children ? Why do people not buy reading materials in general ?

Although the statistics collected do not show a breakdown of all publications, a glance at the National Bibliography shows that most of the material in any year consisted of Government publications. Even with these, there have been some years where production has been significantly low. (In 1976 which is the lowest year, there were only 681 publications. The next lowest year was 1966 with 760. The best years have been 1979 with 2703, 1980 with 1858, 1972 with 1744 and 1978 with 1594.)

(The situation right through the period examined for children's publication must be considered unsatisfactory in relation to the large number of children who need reading materials other than the few school textbooks they are compelled to use for education and entertainment. Here the Sinhala publishing sector has been much more active than the Tamil. The percentages have been given earlier, but the actual figures over the years show wide fluctuation, varying from 77 in 1980 to 9 in 1973. A total of 20 children's books or more (in all media) was regularly maintained except in 1968 (18), 1972 (19), 1973 (12) and in this Sinhala books have predominated. Tamil children's books as stated earlier had an average of 1.2 books per year with the highest production in 1968 (6) followed by 1966 and 1971 with two books each. There have been no Tamil children's publications in 1972, 1975, 1977 and 1979, while the other years have one each. The best year for children's books for all languages was 1980 with 82 books of which 77 are in Sinhala, 1 in Tamil and the rest (4) in English. What did the Tamil children read ?)

Statistics of Book Publishing in Sri Lanka for the period 1965—1980

Number of books published during the year	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
	1168	760	893	1345	1290	1469	1489	1744	1534	937	681	1187	1594	2703	1858
Sinhala	865	296	506	656	637	750	758	925	708	484	341	571	719	1174	970
Tamil	158	184	112	319	324	305	307	341	403	230	159	339	405	686	473
English	145	280	275	370	329	414	424	478	423	223	181	277	470	843	415
Creative Writing	86	161	105	208	193	196	275	294	167	216	134	187	181	261	277
Sinhala	64	143	95	176	162	162	240	257	129	162	85	132	144	203	221
Tamil	20	15	08	25	26	29	19	20	33	37	27	37	06	22	33
English	02	03	02	06	05	05	16	17	09	17	22	18	31	36	23
Children's books	35	30	23	18	29	27	31	19	12	24	22	20	33	43	82
Sinhala	34	28	22	12	22	26	24	19	09	22	17	19	32	41	77
Tamil	01	02	01	06	01	01	02	—	01	—	01	—	01	—	01
English	—	—	—	—	06	—	05	—	02	02	04	01	—	02	04

Source : The National Bibliography 1965-73—Dept. of National Archives
1974-80—National Library Services Board

Statistics was collected by Mrs. Srimathi Gunasena and Mrs. A. Wijesinghe

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PURCHASE OF LIGHT READING MATERIAL FOR TROOPS.

The attention of all members is invited to Circular No. Fed/30/82, dated February 2, 1982, regarding purchase of books by the Ministry of Defence for Troops. As per laid procedure 10 (ten) copies of the list of books along with 4 copies of the Books are required to be sent bi-annually on 1st April and 1st October of each year. The lists as on 1st April, 1982 may please be sent to the Ministry of Defence, immediately, but not later than 15 August, 1982.

It is, however, requested that the guidelines prescribed by the Ministry of Defence should be strictly followed, and that ten copies of the list on a foolscap paper, as proforma, should be sent alongwith.

The books/lists, etc. and all correspondence on the subject may please be addressed to : Shri S. R. Sanger, Desk Officer, Ministry of Defence, Room No. 51, Block E, New Delhi-110011.

The FIP Membership Screening Committee had met on 22 October 1982 and considered applications of the following Publishers which had been received by them.

NEW MEMBERS OF FIP

The Names and Addresses of the new members of the Federation of Indian Publishers are given below.

Shiksha Bharati,
Madrasa Road,
Kashmere Gate,
Delhi-110006

Upper India Publishing
House Pvt. Ltd.,
Aminabad,
Lucknow-226018

Milind Publication Pvt. Ltd.,
6 E, Rani Jhansi Road,
New Delhi-110055

Hem Publishers Pvt. Ltd.,
C-123, Greater Kailash I,
New Delhi-110048

Nistandera Prakashan,
35, Kucha Karam Chand,
Jammu Tawi-180001 (J & K)

Satsahitya Prakashan,
205, Chawri Bazar,
Delhi-110006

Pratibha Pratishthan,
1685, Dakhni Rai Street,
Netaji Subhash Marg,
New Delhi-110002

Bright Careers Institiute,
Sagar Market, 1st Floor,
1525, Nai Sarak,
Delhi-110006

Shri A. K. Jetha
Proprietor
M/s Akbarali H. Jetha,
Opp. Byculla Goods Depot,
Dr Babasabad Ambedkar Road
Bombay-400027

Sri Deepak Kapur
Financial Controller
M/s Gowarsons Publishers (P) Ltd.,
Gulab Bhavan, Mayapuri,
New Delhi-110064

Shri R. K. Gupta
Pustak Mahal,
F-2/16 Ansari Road, Daryaganj,
New Delhi-110002

Shri Kewal Krishan
Neelam Publishers
4451, Nai Sarak,
Delhi-110006

Shri Kailash Khosla
Vikrant Press
32, DSIDC Industrial Complex,
Wazir Pur,
Delhi-110052

Shri A. C. Chawla
Harnam Publications,
4378/4-B, Ansari Road,
New Delhi-110002

Shri Yogendra Pal
Sahitya Prakashan
1458, Maliwara,
Delhi-110006

Shri B. C. Barua
Barua Agency
Publishers and Booksellers
Dighali Pukhari Park
Gauhati

Shri Ramesh Jain
Manohar Book Service
2, Ansari Road, Darya Ganj,
New Delhi-110002

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NEWS & EVENTS

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, released *Non-Story of A Chief Secretary During Emergency Et Cetera* by Mohan Mukerji on October 20, 1982 at her residence. Seen in the photograph are Mrs Gandhi, Mr Mohan Mukerji former Chief Secretary to the Government of Rajasthan, Mr. T.N. Chaturvedi, Home Secretary, Government of India, Mr R.K. Paul, Publisher, Prof. Ramesh Arora and Sabeena.

BOOK PUBLISHING TO BE INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES

Secretary, Central Board of Direct Taxes of the Government of India, in his Circular No. 347 issued on file F. No. 166/4/81-11 (AI) on 7 July, 1982, addressed to all Commissioners of Income Tax has stated that Book Publishing Companies even though they may not be engaged in the printing of books, qualify to be treated as industrial companies for the purpose of section 104 as well as for the concessional taxes treatment given to industrial companies.

THE 20TH CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR WILL BE HELD IN BOLOGNA FROM 3RD TO 6TH MARCH 1983

The 20th Children's Book Fair will be held in Bologna from 3rd to 6th March, 1983, a month earlier than the traditional April appointment. This is due to technical reasons and is exceptional, being limited to 1983.

From 1984 onwards the Book Fair will once again take place, as usual, at the beginning of April.

A prominent feature of this edition of the Book Fair is that it is the twentieth, a milestone at which point a review can be made of the results achieved in all those twenty years of activity as well as of the prospects opening up for the future.

Within the compass of this celebration one foresees an inauguration with a press conference and the award of the Graphic Prize "Fiera di Bologna" and the "Critici in Erba" Prize.

ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF CHRISTIANS

London : There are 1,400 million Christians in 233 countries divided into 150 major ecclesiastical traditions, according to a vast new reference work, "World Christian Encyclopaedia", published by the Oxford University Press, £ 65, England.

Believed to be the most comprehensive work of its type, the 1,000-page book—subtitled "A Comparative Survey of Churches and Religions in the Modern World, A.D. 1900-2000"—took 12 years to compile. The editor is British-born Dr. David Barrett, research officer for the Church of the Province of Kenya and the Anglican Consultative Council in Nairobi.

The main part of the book consists of a religious analysis of every country, with detailed entries, supplemented by pictures, maps, historical data and biographical and bibliographical material. There is also an attempt to forecast statistically the growth and decline in different Christian communities by the end of the century.

The London newspaper "Daily Telegraph" says : "This is a unique, monumental reference book which will fascinate and inform for the next decade."

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AUSTRALIAN DOCTOR WINS COMMONWEALTH POETRY PRIZE

London : Peter Goldsworthy, a 31-year-old Australian doctor, is the winner of the 1982 Commonwealth poetry prize for his collection of verse, "Readings from Ecclesiastes".

The winner was announced in London and in Brisbane, where a Commonwealth Writers' Week was being held concurrently with the Commonwealth Games. Mr. Goldsworthy's book, published by Angus and Robertson, was chosen from 43 entries from 13 countries.

Poets who participated in the competition came from India, Australia, Bangladesh, Bermuda, Canada, Guyana, Jamaica, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, the Solomon Islands, Trinidad and Zimbabwe.

AUSTRALIAN BAGS BOOKER PRIZE

Australian writer Thomas Keneally was on Tuesday night awarded this year's £ 10,000 Booker prize, Britains most coveted award for fiction, for his novel "Schindler's Ark."

The book, according to the author and publisher, is 90 per cent fact. "Schindler's Ark" caused controversy when it was chosen as one of six books short-listed for the prize.

Professor John Carey, chairman of the judges, defended its choice : "There is no falsity in the book, but he has made a novel by structuring, placing and ordering. We discussed this question and in the end none of us thought it should be disqualified on the grounds of not being a novel."

The book tells the World War II story of a German industrialist, who saved over 1,000 Jews from the holocaust, taking them from concentration camps to work in his factory. It is based on interviews with survivors from Australia, Europe, and South America.

AWARDS FOR VED MEHTA

Noted India-born writer Ved Mehta is among 19 persons selected to share one of the premier American awards for talented people. Others include an Assyriologist and a West Asian affairs expert.

The 19 winners will receive from 24,000 dollars to 60,000 dollars annually for five years, from the John D. and Catherine Mac-Arthur Foundation.

ART BOOK DISTRIBUTION CENTRE

Art Book Centre (Ahmedabad-380036) glad to inform you that we have recently taken sole distributionship for the following title : Acharya Kanchansagarsurji : Shri Shatrunjay Giriraj Darshan in Sculpture and Architecture, Foreword by H.G. Shashtri, pp. xiv, 40, 15, 116, with 134 black and white plates, 1982, Rs 180.

The above book published by Aagamoddharak Granthamala and only *500* copies printed.

NEW CHAIRMAN OF RRMR LIBRARY

The Government of India has nominated Shri Mohun Mukerjee. IAS (Retd) as Chairman of the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation for a period of three years. He has assumed the office since March 1, 1982.

Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation has received annual contribution of Rs 76 lakhs from 14 States and Union Territories during the year 1981-82. For the same period assistance with Rs 32.98 lakhs approx. has been rendered to, by states and union territories.

AYURVEDA PHARMACOPEIA

It is proposed to prepare an Ayurveda pharmacopeia of single drugs which have been included in the official formulary. It will also prescribe the working standards for compound formulations including tests for identity, purity and quality so as to ensure uniformity of the finished

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formulations. The task has been entrusted by the Union Government to the reconstituted Ayurvedic Pharmacopeia Committee and its two sub-committees.

RAJA RAM MOHAN ROY LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The Foundation is sponsored by the Ministry of Education of the Government of India. It purchases books under its Central Selection Scheme, and under its matching assistance programme, various State Governments also select books every year. In response to our recent letter, the Foundation has informed as below :

"1. Under its Central Selection Scheme the Foundation normally accepts upto 5 titles of one Indian Publisher for one selection. There is no fixed date for submission of books. A publisher or his authorised representative (with letter of authorisation from the publisher) may submit one specimen copy of each of its 5 publications to the Foundation for consideration of selection. Normally the books should not be priced more than 100 rupees and no increase of price by way of stamping, pasting of slips or title pages etc. are accepted.'

"2. Under the matching assistance of the Foundation various State Governments also select books every year. Many of the States fix a last date for submission of books at their respective headquarters and issue announcements for submission of books under the scheme of the Foundation in certain newspapers. In this regard necessary information may by obtained from the concerned Conceners of State Library Planning Committees in various States etc".

The address of the Foundation is Raja Ram-Mohan Roy Library Foundation, 110, Jodhpur Park, Calcutta-700 068. For any details and clarification please write to them.

PROBLEMS OF INDIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT : National & Regional Dimensions

K.N. Prasad

1982 606pp Rs 200

This work is based on the author's wide experience of and research in India's Economic Development. He examines the causes of the sluggish growth of the nation's economy and points out in a very clear and incisive manner the reasons for the pockets of backwardness of some specific area. In three parts the book explores the national dimensions and the regional dimensions, and examines the cause for the backwardness of the Bihar region. In the last part, he outlines the need for an institutional approach to these problems.

Dr. Prasad is presently Head of the Department of Economics in Patna University, and is the author of our best selling book, 'Problems of Economic Development in the Third World' with special reference to India.

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The book has been edited by the late Professor Boris Demidovich Doctor of Physical and Mathematical Sciences. The problems and examples included in the book cover a general course in higher mathematics for engineering colleges.

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BOOK REVIEWS

LEARNING FROM THE RURAL POOR—Shared Experiences of the Mobile Orientation and Training Team by Henery Volken Ajoy Kumar, Sara Kaithara, Indian Social Institute, 1982, Rs 15.00

The title of this book expresses best the essential characteristics of the four-year involvement of the Mobile Orientation and Training team. (MOTT) with the rural poor. It also analyses the distinctive methodology developed by MOTT to support the rural poor and oppressed in the discovery of their potential to be makers of their own future. In training animators MOTT enables them to develop the capacity to work with their people so as to deal creatively with the immediate problems of hunger, disease, indebtedness and agricultural productivity and, while doing this, to acquire increasingly, a critical understanding of the causes of their poverty that are rooted in the nature and functioning of society.

All those involved in any way in social action with the rural poor will find this book valuable for its insights, methodology and concrete experience of grassroots reality.

LAW & PROCEDURE OF PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION IN PUBLIC SERVICE, by K.P. Chakravarti, Vora Prakashan, 1981, Rs 80.00

The author is a brilliant scholar of the Calcutta University. A prize-man and winner of several literary awards, he has written a number of Law books, particularly in the field of public service and industrial law. His present work 'Law and Procedure of Prevention of Corruption in Publie Service' is the result of his deep and insightful study of the problem of corruption in public service. Corruption in any form is a social evil and is the deadliest enemy of any free and civilised society. Every thinking man will realise that it poses a serious problem to the society as a whole. It affects the administration very seriously where the public officials are self-seeking and motivated more by personal gain than by national or public interest.

This is an outstanding work not only from the legal point of view, but also from the social standpoint. It is a thorough study of the problem as well as of its legal and social remedy. It covers every facet of the problem which is corroding national life. It is bound to be useful to all concerned with, public departments, police establishments, anti-corruption agencies and particularly, the legal profession. Every care has been taken to put appropriate heading and sub-heading to each of the topics, to enable the reader to locate conveniently the relevant matter. An exhaustive subject index is a special feature of the book. All the latest caselaws, reported and unreported, have been incorporated at the appropriate places in the book. A detailed "table of cases" has been appended for easy reference. Sufficient guidelines for the police as well as other departments have been provided to avoid lacuna in the prosecution of corruption cases.

A CLASSICAL DICTIONARY OF HINDU MYTHOLOGY AND RELIGION, GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY & LITERATURE by John Dowson, Rupa & Co., 1982, Rs 30.00

This classical dictionary of Hindu Mythology and Religion will fulfil the demand of the people who were waiting for it for a long time. Many years have gone into the preparation of this book and the main portion of this book consists of references to Hindu Mythology, Religion, Geography, History and Literature. This book is derived from many rare publications both by European and other scholars. The author has garnered the full harvest of Indian learning so that matter relating to Hindu Mythology, Religion, Geography, History and Literature can be easily expounded by a ready reference to this book.

The author has worked diligently and carefully, intelligently and painstakingly, and the result is a perfect reference book. The book would be more valuable and interesting were it well illustrated with plates and cuts. However, it is valuable and interesting to scholars interested in the specialised subjects. It is also a good companion for the lay reader, because it is written in the tradition of great European scholars of Indian literature like Max Muller, Weber, Rath and Lassen.

INDIAN CIVILIZATION: APPROACHES AND METHODS by M. Jha, The Indian Publications, 1982, Rs 45.00

The present book on Indian civilization deals with various approaches and methods applied to the study of Indian civilisation viz. Tribal, Rural, Urban and Textual. Various theoretical hypotheses and concepts,

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which are in vogue in Anthropology, have been reviewed and summarised systematically, which will be very useful to the students and scholars of social sciences. The theoretical interpretations and the contextual analysis of the recent researches in the field of Indian civilization have been excellently highlighted by the author.

THE HISTORY OF INDIA by J.C. Marshman, Lal Publishers, 1982, Rs 150.00

This book of Marshman is an abridgement of the History of India, which was originally in 3 volumes. The author has endeavoured to compress the substance of the three volumes into one, which will suffice to give the reader a view of the salient events of the different periods from 1400 B.C. to 1891 A.D.

Since the publication of the original work a new system of spelling Indian names designated in trans-literal has been introduced in India which in some cases differs so materially from that of the present abridgement and has been brought down to the close of the administration of the East India Company, and the annexation of the empire of India to the Crown of Great Britain, which forms one of the most important epochs in Indian history. In the present edition, important events from the death of Lord Mayo in 1872 to the close of the year 1891, have been chronicled by a member of the author's family which has hitherto been in vogue that it is not easy to identify the places or persons. For the convenience of the native student, the two forms of spelling are placed.

PLANNED DEVELOPMENT IN NEPAL : A STUDY, by Sriram Poudyal, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 60.00

Nepal since its inception in 1956 has been struggling hard to achieve rapid economic growth and improve the living conditions of the people through planned development. By now five periodic plans have been completed and the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85) is under implementation.

All the plans stressed on the need to raise growth rate, develop agriculture, industry, transport and social services and create a just and exploitationless society. But for lack of consolidated studies the achievements are not precisely known. In an effort to overcome this lacuna, this volume has been planned to examine the growth performance of the Nepalese economy measured in terms of GDP with particular emphasis on the development of agriculture and industry and reduction in the poverty, inequality and unemployment.

The author has raised several basic questions including why majority of the people are under severe hardships and are below the poverty line and why the country has been unable to develop despite the heavy inflow of foreign assistance. The author concludes that if decisive measures are not adopted within a few years, the crisis would be unavoidable.

INDIAN PHILOSOPHY: PAST & FUTURE by S.S. Rama Rao Pappu and R. Puligendla, Motilal Banarsidass, 1982, Rs 125.00

These kinds of books are primarily concerned with informing the philosophic community at home and abroad as to the types of problems occupying contemporary Indian Philosophers, their methods and orientation and their proposed solutions. The main aim of the present book is to obtain answers to the following questions—what is the relation between philosophical tradition and contemporary philosophical thinking in India ? where should Indian philosophy go from wherever it is now ?

The main purpose for selecting only Indian contributors is that philosophers in India and outside will have a chance to learn what Indian philosophers think of their own tradition, its encounter with modernity and its future. The essays in the book are placed under three main divisions. The tradition of Indian philosophy, modernity and the future of Indian philosophy. This collection of essays is thus an example of a philosophic activity in one of its best senses : becoming conscious of one's own tradition and a vision of the future.

INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE by K.R. Srinivas Iyengar & Prema Nandakumar, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 80.00

This book combines diverse elements like literary theory, linguistic and literary history and the history of ideas that are relevant to the study and enjoyment of literature. The book is divided into three parts. The first deals with backgrounds and approaches and probes the pervasive influence of the classical tradition and the Hebraic Christian inspiration. Part two is on the literary forms: the Epic, Drama (Tragedy and Comedy) prose, fiction, and the lyric and the Essay. Part three is on Form and Spirit and has chapters on classical and Romantic, "Diction Rhythm and Metre, and Style".

While the main emphasis is on the study of English literature (and literature in English) in terms of Western critical categories, there are also purposeful references to literature in other languages, classical and modern, and to the criteria enunciated in Indian treatises on poetics. The total aim of the book is simply to help the student and even the common reader to view literature, its varied extrinsic forms and appropriate backgrounds, and also to see it in its true inwardness and universality.

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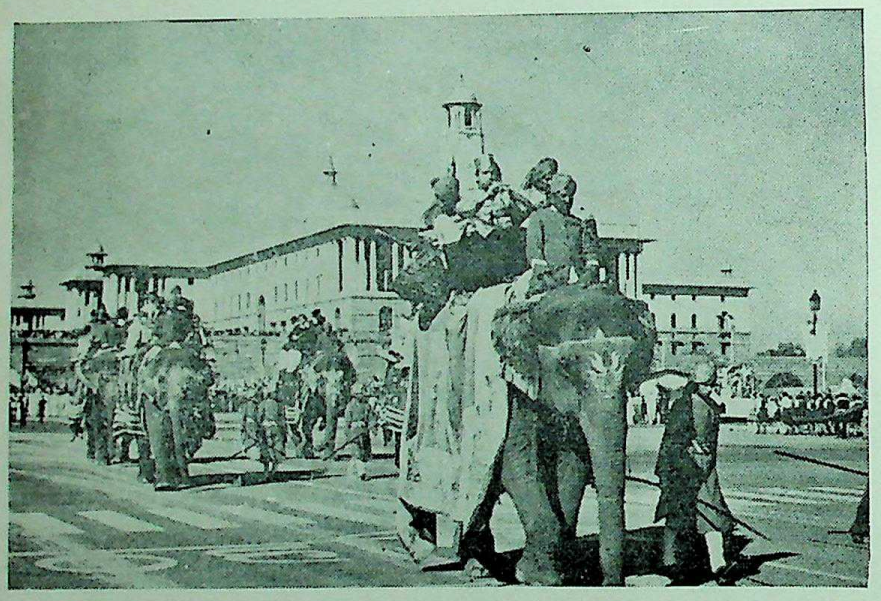

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INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY
is published monthly by Sterling Publishers Pvt Ltd., L-10, Green Park Extension, New Delhi 110016.

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CONTENTS

INDAAL CONFERENCE—A Report 5
—*S. Ansari, Librarian, Dr. Zakir Husain Library Jamia Millia Islamia*

PLR IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES : Problems & Prospects 11
—*Suraj Parkash Nagpal, Senior Librarian (Central State Library)*

FROM THE FILES OF AN AUTHOR, PUBLISHER 13

FEDERATION NEWS 15

NEWS & EVENTS 17

CAPEXIL NEWS 21

MONTHLY LISTING 23

BOOK REVIEWS 30

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(g) To take up publication programme pertaining to the fulfilment of the aims and objects of the Association; and

(h) To cooperate with the organisations of teachers and librarians with similar objectives.

During half a decade of its existence the Association has arranged the following professional activities.

First Annual Conference, April 1979, New Delhi.

Topics for discussions: (a) Decision making in academic libraries (b) Academic libraries and society (c) Standards for college libraries (d) Academic content of librarianship.

Second Annual Conference, January 1980, Tirupati.

Topics for discussion: Innovation in academic library services.

INDAAL Seminar on future of library planning and design, October 1980, New Delhi.

INDAAL Seminar on subscription to periodical publication.

INDAAL-American Center Library joint workshop on Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules 2, 1981.

The Third Annual Conference of the Association was hosted by the Jamia Millia Islamia. The Association had earlier approved the following two topics for discussion at the Conference:

1. Staffing Pattern for College and University Libraries.
2. Budgeting for books and periodical publications in academic libraries.

The inaugural session of the Conference was held in a specially erected Shamiana in the campus of the Jamia on February 12, 1982, at 10.30 a.m. It was attended by delegates, distinguished guests and students of the Department of Library Science from Delhi University and from Nagpur University. More than 70 delegates had specially come from all parts of the country to attend the Conference.

The Conference began with a welcome by Mr S. Ansari, Librarian, Dr Zakir Husain Library, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. Mr Ansari recalled for the delegates the innovative role of the Jamia in the field of education and the association of Prof. S.R. Ranganathan with the Jamia and its activities in the field of non-formal education. Mr Mohd Fazal, Member, Planning Commission while inaugurating the Conference said that education and libraries were two sides of a coin and they could not be separated

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from each other. Librarians, according to Mr Fazal, have a crucial role to play in promoting education, enlightenment and understanding among the people. College and university education is the most important stage in the pattern of higher education. It is a terminal stage providing manpower for the professions, research, educational activities, economic development, industry, political, educational management and other important activities of the nation. The quality of manpower made available will definitely reflect the strong contributions made by the academic librarians in the education of the people. Mr Fazal gave details of expenditure made by the country on libraries in the V Plan. During the sixth Five-Year Plan, i.e., 1980-85 there is a total outlay of Rs. 6.66 crore under the Centre for the development of libraries. The expected expenditure during the 2 years, i.e., 1980-81 and 1981-82 is likely to be Rs. 2.18 crore. Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation established by the Union Ministry of Education to promote the library movement in the country has made significant contribution in developing the public library system in the country. There is an outlay of Rs. 125 lakhs during the sixth Plan for the major programmes of this Foundation. Coming over to the academic libraries he said that a provision of Rs. 14.57 crores had been made by the University Grants Commission which extended grants to the universities and colleges for the development of their libraries under the sixth Five-Year Plan. Out of this Rs. 4.57 crores are meant for the development of college libraries. Mr Fazal emphasized the importance of management in libraries and said, "It would be stating the obvious that it is just not enough to stock books, but it is much more important to organise libraries in such a fashion that they are indeed continuous centres of "pilgrimage" of students interested in education, industry, politics, business, etc., where they could have the facilities and opportunities for the improvement of their intellect and knowledge". In this national endeavour libraries have a great role to play so that various segments of the society are not involved in petty issues, and in low thinking, but are committed to the overall advancement of the country, so that India does emerge a great society, for which the country has indeed tremendous potential.

The key-note address was presented by Prof. Abad Ahmad, Director, South Campus, Delhi University. Prof. Ahmad raised certain basic issues that are confronting the academic libraries. Prof. Abad Ahmad began his address with a quotation from the now famous Atkinson report to underline the role of library in a university. The management of the academic library said Prof. Ahmad was becoming a complex problem for various reasons, but chiefly because of increase in student populations and the exponential growth rate in the sum of human knowledge. The academic libraries were faced with the twin task of acquiring "at lease a certain proportion" of the increasing volume of new knowledge and providing for multiple copies of text-books. The need for periodicals, and microforms etc. was no longer confined to research level students. The university library had at least to provide for the needed material was made available, if not from its own stocks, from other places.

According to Prof. Abad Ahmad the emphasis for Ph.D. degree for teaching position in universities and colleges, makes it obligatory on the part of the library to provide the material needed by faculty members in their research work. Again a well stocked library is a strong incentive for attracting bright teachers and retaining them while summing up the functions of a University library. Prof. Abad Ahmad likened it to a repository of knowledge and information that assists the students, scholars, teachers and other readers in identifying, locating and studying the relevant material. This variety in its functions warrants an efficient system for storage, classification, updating, transferring or discarding, documentation, guidance and retrieval of relevant material on the subjects.

The variety in material to be stocked and the categories of clientele to be handled requires in a librarian not only technical competence but also a great deal of human and conceptual skill.

Prof. Abad Ahmad put librarians into four broad categories of Store Keeper Librarian, the Trustee Librarian, the Bureaucrat Librarian and the Professional Librarian.

He underlined the following issues that Librarians might discuss in the two-day Conference.

1. Budget: While conceding that the shortage of fund was a universal phenomenon, he drew the attention of the Planning Commission towards the need for more funds by saying that investment in education and training and development of libraries was a vital investment for the growth of the nation and deserve a higher priority.
2. The problem of centralisation vs decentralisation and a genuine need for libraries in colleges and departments. The libraries had to decide the extent to which decentralisation was desirable and the mechanism of coordination in its working.
3. The claim of the library staff for recognition as teachers.
4. The growing shortage of space and in this context the proposals made by the Atkinson Committee.
5. The need for rationalisation in management Prof. Abad Ahmad

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laid special emphasis on possibilities of employing management techniques to library administration viz., emphasis on the Management Information System, application of behavioural sciences and quantitative techniques, management of library finances, management training methods, layout and reading space.

6. Users' education, i.e., obtaining the cooperation of readers and educating them about the use of library services. There is an increasing tendency to recognise the need for users' education. It is according to Prof. Ahmad something more than simple initiation of readers when they become library members for the first time. In this connection he said that there was a strong case for simple and applied research studies to be conducted by the libraries themselves about the needs and expectations of their readers. He also suggested for periodic surveys of the nature of collections, use of the different types of material, and scope for improvement of services.

Prof. Abad Ahmad concluded his thought-provoking address by underlining the need for evolving criteria for library efficiency and effectiveness.

Prof. A.J. Kidwai, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia who presided over the inaugural session expressed his pleasure that the Association had chosen the Jamia as the venue of their Third Annual Conference. He underlined the importance of efficient library service and the basic contribution of libraries to the academic life of universities and colleges.

The delegates reassembled in the afternoon in the Conference Room of the Jamia Millia Islamia for the business session.

The following papers were presented in the two days' session.

1. Girja Kumar and P.K. Jayaswal, Social Science Periodicals in India: Their Availability, Cost Escalation and Utilization; 2. K.S. Chudamani and N. Anuradha, Role of User Surveys in Budgeting for Libraries; 3. K.S. Deshpande, Runaway Prices and Inelastic Budgets: Problems Facing University Libraries in India; 4. Raju M. Mathew, An Alternative Approach to Manpower Needs of University Libraries in India; 5. Dr S.G. Mahajan, Staffing Pattern of University Libraries in Maharashtra; 6. R. Sreepathi Naidu, Staffing Pattern of College and University Libraries in Andhra Pradesh; 7. V. Venkateswara Rao, Staffing Pattern in Andhra Pradesh College Libraries; 8. Joginder Singh, The Academic Library in the United States for the 1980's and its Staffing Pattern; 9. N.B. Inamdar, Staffing Pattern for University College Libraries of Osmania University, Hyderabad; 10. A.P. Gakhar, Staffing Pattern in University and College Libraries: Position of Professional Assistant; 11. Madiwale, Staffing Pattern for College Libraries in the Western Region.

The various sessions of the Conference were presided over by Prof. K.A. Issac, Prof. P.N. Kaula and Prof. P.B. Mangla. The Conference adopted the following resolutions on its concluding day.

Resolutions

1. In view of the rapid expansion taking place in the responsibilities and functions of academic libraries and recognising the fact that the existing staff pattern obtaining in university and college libraries was evolved more than twenty years ago the Conference resolves that "the UGC may consider holding a Conference to discuss and develop staffing pattern and job descriptions of professional staff working in university and college libraries".

2. Recognising the fact that the academic libraries provide service to all functions of a university-teaching and research, the creation of new knowledge, and transmission of learning and culture of the present and the past to posterity, the Conference resolves that "the libraries be accorded the status of a faculty for purposes of restructuring its staff".

3. The UGC had sponsored a seminar of college librarians at Khandala (Bombay) in 1979 to discuss and evolve standards for college libraries. The standards were subsequently discussed at a meeting of the UGC Standing Committee for Libraries. The Conference resolves that "the UGC may implement standards for college libraries approved by its Standing Committee, as early as possible".

4. The Conference considers that academic centres established by the UGC need adequate library support in order to plan their teaching and research programme. It therefore resolves "to request the UGC that no academic centre be set up by it unless adequate provisions have been made for corresponding library facilities".

5. Recognising the need for research about the requirements of the various groups using the libraries, as also fuller utilisation of the library resources, the Conference resolves that "librarians in college and university libraries take up applied research studies about the new and expectations of their readers, and user education programmes".

6. The Conference views with concern the present practice of appointing honorary librarian or teacher in charge librarian in university and college libraries and "resolves that the practice of appointing honorary librarian or professor in charge of library m[illegible] be discontinued without an [illegible] delay. It further resolves t[illegible] persons with proper

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qualifications be appointed librarian in universities and colleges".

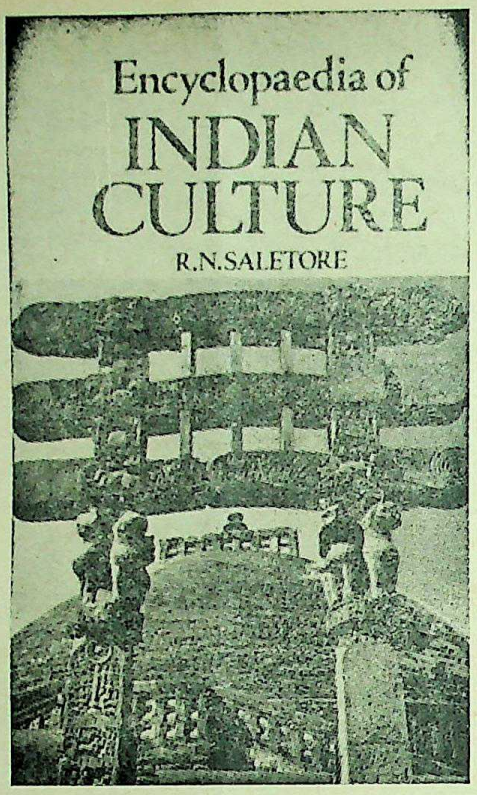
7. Recognising the role of post-graduate colleges and considering the fact that the UGC is promoting the idea of autonomous colleges, the Conference "resolves that librarians of these colleges may be granted the scale of Rs. 1200-1900".

8. Taking into consideration the fact that the qualifications for the post of Professional Assistants are the same as that of Professional Junior and recognising that corresponding post of Assistant Lecturers was upgraded by the UGC, the Conference resolves that "the Professional Assistants may also be placed in the scale of Rs. 700-1600 provided they possess the qualifications laid down for the post of Assistant Librarians".

9. In view of the alarming increase in periodical subscription rates, the Conference resolves to request academic libraries to coordinate their subscription policy so as to avoid unnecessary duplication and to improve the coverage of periodicals received in the country".

The Conference concluded in the evening of February 13, 1982, with thanks to the Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia, the authorities and staff of the Jamia in general and to the Dr Zakir Husain Library in particular. The Conference, as would be clear from the above resolutions, has fulfilled an important need of the academic librarians.

PROMOTION IS OUR BUSINESS
101



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The author is a former member of I.A.S. and has held many responsible posts.

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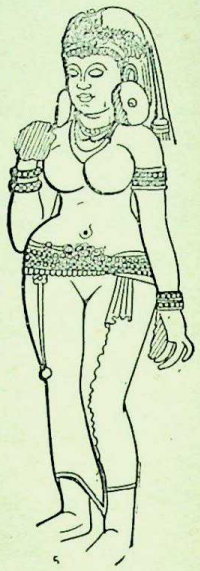

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—T.V. Pathy

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It analyses the vital influence exercised on the styles of architecture, sculpture and mural-painting by the change and flux in the three major religions of India—Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism.

Dr T.V. Pathy is the Head of the Dept of Ancient Indian History, Marathwada University, Aurangabad.

Comments

"Pathy's work, which includes a distillation of the century of scholarship relating to Elura finally has brought new information to light which cannot help but alter perspective of this important series of excavations . . . Such an undertaking would satisfy many of the unanswered questions regarding the history of the site."

South Asia in Review

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LATEST FROM THE USSR

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V. Novikov
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Cloth, Pp. 350, Rs 9.50.

Soviet literary scholar and critic V. Novikov has written many works on the present-day literary process.

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Lev Tolstoy
CHILDHOOD, ADOLESCENCE, YOUTH
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Childhood, which came out in 1852 when the author was 24, was Lev Tolstoy's first printed work. It was devised as the first part of a large autobiographical novel, *Four Stages of Growth*: *Childhood*, *Adolescence*, *Youth*, *Youngman*, but he never wrote the last part.

The trilogy is a captivating tale of the life and intellectual growth of the book's hero, Nikolenka Irtenyev, and is, in many respects, a story of Tolstoy's own green years. The writer's parents, his brother and his favourite tutor served as prototypes for the book's characters.

The preface to the book constitutes a brilliant article on Tolstoy written by the critic Chernyshevsky (1828-89) who was the first to note the writer's capacity for insight into the "dialectics of the soul, into the laws of the psyche."

The book is lavishly illustrated.

F. Dostoyevsky
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"The novel is being read everywhere. I receive letters, young people are reading it . . . Never yet, judging from the impression created around me, have I had such success," wrote Dostoyevsky in December 1879 soon after this book appeared in print.

The epic is a summing-up of Dostoyevsky's (1821-81) creative career. The writer, who said of himself that "I am obsessed by sadness over current life", produced a picture of Russia at the close of the 19th century with all its problems and contradictions, and this by showing the life of one family. Albert Einstein said: "Dostoyevsky gives me more than any scientific thinker."

The book has a foreword and a historical and literary commentary.

Yanka Bryl
FIRST SNOW
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This contains the best short stories of the author who is in love with his native Byelorussia, its scenery and its people.

The reader gets a profoundly lyrical picture of today's Soviet Byelorussia and an insight into the complex inner world of its people.

Yanka Bryl is the author of many novels and long short stories.

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Vol. I, Pp. 450
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This book gives a picture of Soviet life from the Revolution to the present day, as reflected in the work of over 50 authors representing different nationalities from all parts of the Soviet Union. The recent past lives again as the Civil War rages through Russian villages, the virgin lands of Kazakhstan go under the plough, Leningrad withstands the siege and the builders of the Kara Kum Canal proceed about their daily chores.

The authors range from Soviet classical writers—Maxim Gorky and Alexei Tolstoy—to our contemporaries, Chinghiz Aitmatov and Victor Astafiev.

The book contains a foreword and biographical sketches.

F. Gladkov
CEMENT
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F. Gladkov, heir to the literary traditions of Maxim Gorky, was one of the first great Soviet novelists, Cement is an "eye-witness" account of the birth of the Soviet economy immediately after the Civil War and about the courage and sacrifice of the civilian population. Cement broke new ground with its description of the working class as the new master of the country, of the tremendous obstacles in its path of the growth of a new type of personal relationships and the emergence of the Soviet state.

V. Garshin
STORIES
Paper, Pp. 390, Rs 6.50

In 1980, Soviet literary circles and the reading public marked the 125th birth anniversary of Vsevolod Garshin.

A contemporary of Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Lew Tolstoy and Anton Chekhov, Garshin occupies a place of his own in Russian literature. His work is imbued with love and compassion for humanity and a desire to fight "all the evil there is on earth". Everything he wrote is marked by talent and humanism. The collection includes 11 of the stories written in the last decade of his life, from 1877 to 1987.

K. Lagunov
MIRACLE OF THE AGE
Paper, Pp. 160, Rs 3.00

This book is by the well-known Siberian author, Konstantin Lagu-

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nov, whose home is in the city of Tyumen. Various publishers in the Soviet Union have issued over 20 of his books, including six novels, four plays and six children's books. He wrote the script for a two-part TV film. Konstantin Lagunov has the degree of Candidate of Historical Sciences. He has been honoured with government decorations: two Badges of Honour for public activity and for assisting the development of Soviet literature. Lagunov actually lives among the characters he writes about in his books. His closest friends include geologists, drillers, men who produce oil and gas, building workers, pilots and truck drivers. All that Lagunov has written is the result of first-hand knowledge of Soviet reality and active participation in his country's life.

Eduord Vilde
MILKMAN OF THE MANOR
Paper, Pp. 195, Rs 5.30

In the last quarter of the nineteenth century capitalism was rapidly penetrating into the rural economy of northern Estonia, which is the scene of the events described in Eduord Vilde's novel "Milkman of the Manor." The age of serfdom and slave labour was past, the landlords had started selling farmsteads for cash on a large scale to their former peasants and tenant farmers. And it was the dream and ambition of the peasant tenant Tonu Prillup, who had recently lost his wife, to purchase such a farm for himself. Because there must be a woman in the house to tend the cow look after the two children, he soon leads his late wife's sister, Mari to the altar.

M. Gorky
SELECTED STORIES
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Maxim Gorky, the founder of Soviet literature, worked most fruitfully in the genre of the short story all through his long writing career. This collection, which is a sort of an anthology of Gorky's stories, includes his well-known stories written in the 1890s and 1900s: "Makar Chudra", "Old Izergil", "Konovalov", "Song of the Falcon", and stories from *Tales About Italy and About Russia*.

The collection demonstrates once again Gorky's great psychological insight and mastery.

M. Sholokhov
VIRGIN SOIL UPTURNED
Vol. I, Pp. 410
Vol. II, Pp. 425, Cloth
Rs 20.00 (for the set)

The works of Mikhail Sholokhov, Lenin and Nobel Prize winner and one of the greatest writers of the 20th century, have become world famous.

The first part of Virgin Soil Upturned was published in the magazine Novy Mir in 1932. However, the novel was not completed until 1960 because Sholokhov was working on his famous novel *And Quiet Flows the Don*.

Though the novel describes collectivisation in the countryside as far back as the 1930s, it still sounds contemporary.

The book also contains a preface by Anatoli Kalinin, a well-known Soviet writer, Sholokhov's friend and fellow-countryman.

Dmitry Likhachov
THE GREAT HERITAGE
Cloth, Pp. 350, Rs 9.00

The author is an expert on the history of old Russian literature. This book analyses the origin and content of the literary works of 10th-17th centuries, such as *The Sermon on Law and Grace* by Ilarion, *The Tale of Bygone Years*, *The Lay of Igor's Host*, and treatises by Archipriest Avvakum. The author marks their patriotism and civic spirit reveals the richness and variety of their language and discusses their cultural and historical traditions which served as the basis for the further development of Russian literature.

F. Dostoyevsky
STORIES
Paper, Pp. 390, Rs 5.00

"I believed and still believe that people can be good and happy without losing the ability to live on this earth. I won't and can't believe that evil can be a normal human condition," these are the words from Fyodor Dostoyevsky's story "The Ridiculous Man's Dream", and they most precisely convey the author's world perception.

"White Nights", "A Most Unfortunate Incident", "A Faint Heart", "The Meek One" and "The Ridiculous Man's Dream", included in the book, were written at different periods of Dostoyevsky's life and present different facts of his great talent.

The collection is prefaced by an article by Konstantin Fedin.

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PLR IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
Problems and Prospects

SURAJ PRAKASH NAGPAL*

Discusses the characteristics of authorship; trends in book-publishing; and modes of distribution, all under the influence of library-network to highlight the problems and prospects of PLR in a developing country. Agrees to the veracity of the case of PLR but doubts if its implementation is quite justified in a developing country like INDIA.

Logic and justice require that authors be remunerated for the use made of their works by library borrowers. It is "that the author also has a right: a right to be paid for the use of his books, instead of receiving...ten per cent of the retail price...as his final reward for one copy, that scores of readers may borrow before it falls to pieces. This right—Public Lending Right or PLR—".[1] In a way it is a social wrong to allow a book still in copyright to be borrowed from a public library (either free or on payment) without any payment of any kind to the living author.

Outwardly the matter looks too simple, but to surmount the obstacles involved in the implementation of PLR is much harder; and it all becomes even more complicated a problem when the whole matter is considered in the context of a developing country.

The indepth problems and prospects of PLR in the Indian context can be viewed under three heads :

(i) Authorship	Under the
(ii) Publishing	impact of
(iii) Distribution	library net-
	work.

Authorship

"It could be argued that our society has not yet adapted itself to the emergence of a class of professional writers, a relatively recent social phenomenon"[2] are the words of a British writer Findlater, Richard. This statement applies even more precisely to Indian authorship, because we do not have in India, many professional writers. Secondly about the motive of an author, when he writes a book. Lala Har Dayal in his famous book 'Hints for Self Culture' writes "In this book, I have tried to indicate and explain some aspects of the message of Rationalism for the young men and women of all countries. *If it helps them* in their efforts for self improvement in the last degree, *I shall be amply rewarded.*"[3]

So to say, who writes for money only? Actually our writers, write as a side job and hardly have showed any intention of making money out of their publications. Frankly, their writings are not motivated to earn money, rather they are motivated to earn fame. In other words the authorare happy to see their works in the hands of scores of readers (through libraries and other channels) than earning profits from them by sales to libraries. Hence, the authorship in India does not really stand for a case of PLR, when it is just in a stage of prenatal growth: what it really needs is the help of libraries to provide them with more and more readers so that the authorship is fully developed and given a social recognition.

Authorship in India is flourishing in many regional languages, as a result overall standard of the authors has not yet reached the optimum. Because there are not many people who can understand more than one or two regional languages, the overall readership for books is found divided; then there is a complete absence of coordination of activities

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within the literature of various languages which makes quite difficult for authors to achieve optimum standards of writing. Secondly this factor is also responsible for smaller size of editions of books, which normally is one thousand copies. Out of this one thousand copies, which are sold in about three to five years, approximately six hundred to eight hundred come in libraries. That is to say if at all the PLR is implemented, is it really worth asking for i.e. in terms of its cost benefit analysis ?

Finally library's free lending service helps in popularising and promoting the authorship. As the author is more recognised, and becomes more popular his market value increases proportionately. He is paid in advance to write, subsidies for writing, given awards and other monetary benefits. So, the libraries, which provide readership to author's books are responsible to enable him to earn all out of his writings. The popular aim of the PLR is to protect small authors but by giving PLR also the richer authors will be more rich and poor authors will remain as poor.

Publishing

Present crisis in Indian Book Publishing has obstructed many many authors to see their works in print. High cost of production combined with many other factors like, low rate of literacy, low per-capita income etc., has resulted in high prices of books, which are out of reach of the individual buyers. So to say, if 80 per cent books were not sold to libraries, publication of many titles would not have been possible. Secondly when publishers are aware of the fact that 80 per cent of the books are going to be sold in libraries, they give high ratings to their titles, further increasing the gap between high price of book and the potential buyer.

Library's role in keeping the book-publishing industry in India, alive, is undisputable, and it was further confirmed and actually felt by the publishing community during years 1978-80 when UGC in India imposed a check on the grants to the University Libraries and many major publishing programmes came almost to a halt.

Distribution

"It is sometimes argued that the existence of libraries militates against the sale of books in shops, but there is little evidence to confirm this. While one copy of a title in a public library may be loaned eighty times or more, it is improbable that all those eighty people would have purchased a copy had they not been able to borrow it. Possibly one or two might have done so. Nevertheless, many people who would not generally enter a book-shop will use a library, and in course of time may become interested : in owing as well as reading books. In developing countries where books are so scarce, libraries have of course an exceptional social importance."[4] This statement by Unesco in itself is explanatory about the potent role of libraries in creating more readership in a developing country like India. So to fight a case for PLR—and to ask for extra payment on library purchases is not quite right. Why not libraries ask authors to pay, when they promote their authorship? This view is further strengthened when F.T. Bell argues persuasively that "there is no evidence to show that the sales of my books to individuals are reduced because they can be borrowed from libraries for nothing."[5] What we need to know is, if those who buy books and those who borrow books are two fairly discrete populations. And we also need to find out what kind of materials are bought and what kind borrowed.

Very rightly Piternic, George says that "Public lending right runs directly counter to a right which still lacks a formal name. I will call the "Public Library Right"...the right of individuals to band themselves into groups to buy books and circulate those books freely among the members of the group has been unquestioned for centuries."[6]

Library's free lending service is a boon to the reading community and imposing any sort of levy on them or in book-budget of libraries, for the use of books will further mar the readership. When we already need microscopes to search for readership in India.

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From the files of an author, publisher...

New York, July 27, 1982

I read Ashok Chopra's article on the fate of my autobiography which was commissioned by Narendra Kumar of Vikas publishers. Apparently Mr Chopra works for Vikas, so his facts become canard when he talks about my relations with Vikas. The fact is Narendra Kumar reneged on the written contract, an unethical thing to do for any publisher, for which I could have sued for lakhs in damages. But knowing how backlogged Indian courts are, I dropped the idea. The Government of India must note that justice is not justice when not swift and easily available. According to the advice of a barrister, it was not worth fighting Vikas in the Indian courts.

Chopra states that I "dictated terms". I couldn't dictate any terms other than those in the written agreement. My side of the facts are that Narendra Kumar defaulted on a written agreement, he violated a contract. The contract stated I should provide an autobiography. In the process of writing I found I could not contain the story of my life in just one volume: the one volume I submitted to Vikas spanned only 15 years of my youth from 1924 to '39. The correspondence with Narendra Kumar became ridiculous. He wrote:

(1) India was not ready for multi-volumed autobiographies.

(2) I should bring the whole autobiography to date—some 55 years of my life compressed in the last 100 pages, which of course would make the beginning lopsided and heavy.

(3) He never replied to my suggestions.

Vikas, of course, has published multi-volumed autobiographies—Adil Jussawala's, for example. There was no stipulation on the number of volumes on my contract. Kumar returned my MS to me, mutilated and with over a hundred pages missing.

As for me stating my autobiography is sensational, it is a fact which will be hard to dispute even by masters of the English language, looking at it purely as a literary work. About my writing the London Times critic wrote that "it is remarkable by any standards," and the New Statesman, (the British paper) wrote that my writing has "qualities of genius." All this is on record and it would be silly on my part to be modest when faced with distorted lies. Moreover, my prose is read in the Bombay University.

No, the exact reason why Kumar reneged on the contract and violated his word and his honour is because Mr Srikant Verma, M.P., in his speech in Parliament (quoted partially by Chopra) said, "Let the customs release the manuscript, let Vikas publish it, and let the Government ban the book." Kumar got cold feet over the prospect of a law-suit with the Government. He was not going to bank roll a case against pornography, (like Penguins did in the case of Lady Chatterley's Lover in 1961 in England). He was going to wait until some other publishers did it, so that then Vikas, could take the profits. My verdict on the English language, that it is our heritage, is now clearly stated in The White Flag Revolution manifesto!

F.N. Souza

Vikas Publishing House Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

18th August, 1982

Mr F.N. Souza in his letter has made several statements, factual and otherwise, that are baseless and need clarification.

I will deal with the facts first: Mr Ashok Chopra, author of the article in question, is in no way associated with Vikas Publishing House; he is on the staff of the Hindustan Times Group of Publications. Second, Vikas has neither been offered, nor has it agreed to, or published any "multi-volumed" autobiographies, to date, and certainly none by Adil Jussawala, as Mr Souza states.

Mr Souza's contention that Vikas reneged on a written contract, when presented with his proposal for a multi-volumed Autobiography, is not borne out by the facts of the situation.

At no stage during our correspondence, which covered three years, did we indicate that more than a single volume would be considered. The author himself in a letter dated February 11, 1977, said, "The complexity of my book is such that I will need editorial help. You will have to help me out on it by putting someone in charge of editing this Souza Karma ms." Two and a half years into our correspondence, Mr Souza unexpectedly declared that his Autogiography would now be a 5-volume project, because "...spacing the work out this way gives me breathing time..."! We expressed our reservations, as publishers, on this decision, but indicated in writing that the matter needed further consideration.

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The "suggestions" Mr Souza made in this regard (in a letter dated June 21, 1979) were simply this: that the words "Volume 1, 1929-34" be omitted from the title of the book, to which suggestion he pre-empted a reply by declaring in the following paragraph, "But...it seems we have come to an impasse. *Therefore, it would be best if you return my manuscript with the 62 drawings, as I have an alternative publisher*". This was repeated in a letter dated September 17, 1979 in which he wrote, ..."it will be best if you regard our Agreement as null and void and return my manuscript."

The question, thus, of Vikas defaulting, on a written agreement, never arose, it is ironical, however, that even Volume 1 of Mr Souza's Autobiography remains unpublished, to say nothing of Volumes 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Our correspondence with the author on his manuscript, far from being "ridiculous", was most cordial and warm at all times, and in a letter dated April 22, 1977 he went to the extent of writing as follows: "Your correspondence is very interesting, and it should be meaningful fun to include it in a later book of my letters." He would hardly wish to include the "ridiculous".

Mr Souza's final contention that Vikas got "cold feet" is best answered by Souza himself. In a letter dated June 26, 1978, he wrote: "I ought to have mentioned in my review that Mr Narendra Kumar of Vikas ought to be complimented on his daring and insight in taking the risk of publishing complex and powerful books when most publishers only look out for profits!"

The question, therefore, is not one of developing "cold feet" in the face of a legal battle; it is, rather, one of having a case worth fighting for.

Narendra Kumar
(Managing Director)
(*Courtesy*: The Hindustan Times October 3, 1982)

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FEDERATION NEWS

RUSSIA TO BUY MORE INDIAN BOOKS

The Soviet Union will purchase more Indian books in the future. The Soviet state committee authorities on publishing, printing and book trade recently assured the President of the Federation of Indian Publishers, Mr. Narendra Kumar that there would be a substantial increase in the purchase of Indian books.

While no precise figures are available of Soviet book sales in India, the Soviet Union bought two lakh rupees worth of books from India in 1980 and five lakh rupees worth in the first seven months of 1981.

PRESS CONFERENCE ON PAPER

A Press Conference to highlight the difficulties being experienced by the publishers in India owing to non-availability of paper at reasonable price was held at the Press Club of India, New Delhi on Friday, 30 July, 1982. Shri Narendra Kumar, President of the Federation addressed the Conference and placed the facts before them.

He also released to the Press a letter he had addressed to the Prime Minister of India on 28 July, 1982.

NOMINATION OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FIP FOR CAPEXIL

The Executive Committee unanimously decided to nominate Shri Asoke K. Ghosh as representative of the FIP for CAPEXIL. The President mentioned the splendid work done by Shri Asoke Ghosh as Chairman of the Book Panel.

Thanking the Executive Committee for nominating him as their representative for a second term, Shri Ghosh assured that he would continue to work for the larger interests of Indian publishing hitherto. He took the opportunity to thank Shri Narendra Kumar for the cooperation given in his task, particularly in the meetings of the CAPEXIL.

THE CONTINUING PAPER PROBLEM

The increase in the rates of paper in India during the last 7 to 8 years has been so high that it cannot be compared with that of other countries anywhere in the world. Till 1977 paper was priced at Rs. 3.75 per kg., whereas today its price varies, between Rs. 10 to Rs. 11 per kg. The paper prices in India are among the highest in the world in spite of the fact that the wages and other factors of production are comparatively much cheaper in India, This has resulted in a rise in the prices of books which has hit not only the general public but also the students, authors and above all the publishers themselves. The rise in the prices of books results in the lower sale of books. The Government of India has undertaken mass literacy and adult education programme and this is bound to prove a failure unless the reading material is made available to the public at reasonable prices. The paper mills are creating a hue and cry and bringing pressure on the Government to review its present paper policy.

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The Federation of Indian Publishers, has made the following suggestions :

(1) The Paper Control Order which has proved a boon to the publishers, should be strictly enforced. Under the Paper Control Order 1974, the paper mills are obliged to produce 30 per cent of their total capacity as white printing paper which is sold at a concessional rate for publication of text-books.

The Order is still in force and the state-level committees set-up for distribution of this paper are also functioning in all the States. Surprisingly, the paper allotted to textbook publishers is not even 2 per cent of their genuine needs. It is important to discipline paper manufacturers so that Paper Control Order is properly implemented.

(2) Under no circumstances should the Government stop import of paper. We feel that the policy adopted by the Government to import paper through Hindustan Paper Corporation in large quantities can only stabilize prices and can also build up a buffer stock.

(3) The Government of India should not allow export of paper as has been the case so far.

(4) Publishers should be given newsprint in sufficient quantity for the publication of soft-cover editions, paperbacks, children and educational books. In view of the fact that 60 per cent of the cost of books is constituted by paper, publishers in India would require newsprint of both the standard quality and glazed quality to the tune of ten thousand metric tonnes a year. This policy should be formulated as early as possible in the interest of establishing a literate society in the country.

FORTHCOMING BOOKS
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ART ARCHITECTURE & INDIAN CULTURE

Encyclopaedia of Indian Culture
Vol—III (M-R.)
—R.N. Saletore

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Subhas Chandra Bose & The Indian National Movement
—Hari Hara Das

ECONOMICS, COMMERCE & MANAGEMENT

Rathnam's Cost & Management Accounting Problems & Solutions
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T.C. Baruah

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Wisdom of Vedaanta
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Family Planning Programme in the Organised Sector—Case Studies
—Edited by Nirmala Murthy

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NEWS & EVENTS

BANGLADESH THE BOI

The BOI is a monthly journal on books with emphasis on local publications. It is published by the National Book Centre of Bangladesh, 67/A Purana Paltan, Dacca-2, Bangladesh.

INDIAN BOOKS IN LONDON

An exhibition of about 1500 of the best publications in English and various Indian languages published both by the private and the public sectors in India will be held from 25 to 30 October in the Commonwealth Institute London. It is organized by the National Book Trust of India.

GHANIAN CHILDREN'S BOOK WINS 1982 NOMA AWARD

A Ghanian author, Meshack Asare, has been awarded the 1982 Noma Prize for publishing in Africa, for his picture story book the Brassman's Secret, published by Educational Press and Manufacturers Ltd, Accra in 1981. The prize of $ 3,000 was formally presented to the winner at a special ceremony on the opening day of the 7th Ife International Book Fair, held in March this year.

FIJI WRITERS ASSOCIATION FORMED

The writers of Fiji have recently formed a professional association, the Fiji Writers Association, to promote writing in Fiji to cater for writers' needs. A literary journal, Sinnet would also be published by the Association.

The Association has formulated a programme of competitions in short story writing on the occasion of National Library Week was held from 7 to 14 August 1982. Some of the short stories, particularly prize winning stories, are to be published in book form.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

The International Research Society for Children's Literature is interested hearing from persons who are doing research in the field of children's literature, particularly literacy, historical and sociological substance of children's literature, reading or reading skills and also from persons teaching children's literature or who have presented papers to congresses or seminars.

Those interested may write to Dr K.K. Roy, 55 Gariahat Road, P.O. Box 10210, Calcutta-700019, India.

RAJAJI LITERARY AWARDS 1982

The Rajaji Literary Award was formulated by the Rajaji Centenary Committee in 1981. The purpose of this Award is to provide incentive to scholars and thinkers of eminence to undertake works promoting moral and spiritual values.

The first awards, given in 1981, were for books in Hindi and Tamil. The authors of the two books, selected in these languages, were presented with a cash prize of Rs. 10,000 and a momento each.

The 1982 awards will be given for works in Sanskirt and English languages. To be eligible for the award works should have been published and printed in India between 1 January 1976 and 31 December 1981 and should promote moral and spiritual values. The award is open to authors of Indian nationality regardless of race, religion, caste, creed or sex.

BRAILLE LIBRARY

The free Hatim Alvi Memorial Braille Library situated in the heart of the city of Karachi has been serving blind readers in the city.

The library started by Mrs Nargis Jivanji in January 1977 and named after her father, Hatim Alvi, has at present about 5,000 books and magazines in English braille. Subject covered include science; history; English literature; medicine; Geography; story books like science fiction;

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adventure; detective and romantic novels and braille magazines. The library also maintains a listening library where blind are welcomed.

Hundreds of Urdu books have also been transcribed into Urdu Braille for use in the library.

JAPAN TRAINING COURSE FOR EDITORS OF PERIODICALS

The 15th Training Course on Book Production in Asia and the Pacific was held in Tokyo from 28 September to 27 October 1982.

The main purpose of this course organized by ACCU with Unesco assistance will provide opportunities for participants to refresh and increase their knowledge and skill in the publishing of periodicals. The course is also intended to be a forum for editors in Asia and the Pacific to exchange experience.

THE KERALA SASTRA SAHITYA PARISHAT (KSSP)

The Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishat, a voluntary organization, was formed by the initiative of a handful of popular science writers in 1957. The objective of the KSSP is to promote popular science literature in Malayalam. The slogan of the KSSP is "Science for Social Revolution."

One of the major objectives of KSSP is the publication of periodicals and books on science. KSSP publishes five science monthlies and one bulletin. All of the five periodicals are published for school children, whereas the bulletin is meant for the 6100 members of KSSP and contains organizational news.

So far 195 titles have been published by KSSP. These include books on topics such as *Man and Environment*, *Appropriate Technology*, and *Pollution*. Another series includes books on trades: *Wireman*, *Lineman*, *Automobile Worker*, *Press Worker* and there is a programme to teach the unqualified technicians and artisans the science behind their trade.

To bring books and ideas about science to the common man through the medium of art the KSSP organizes exhibition tours throughout the State. The first was held from 2 October to 7 November 1980 while a second with two teams was organized during 2 October to 7 November 1981.

PHILIPPINES—ISBN

The Philippines has now joined the ranks of countries which have adapted the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) system and the International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) system,

NEWSPRINT POLICY ANNOUNCED

The newsprint allocation policy for the current year announced by the Government envisages a number of relief measures to small and medium newspapers.

The entitlement of newspapers would be circulation on the basis of, inter alia, the average number of pages published in 1981.

Last year, the entitlement of the newspaper was calculated on the page level of 1979.

Small and medium newspapers with an entitlement of less than 300 tonnes will have the choice to take either imported or indigenous newsprint.

However, in view of the increased indigenous production of newsprint, newspapers with higher entitlement are required to take, at least 40 per cent of their entitlement from indigenous mills—20 per cent from Nepa mills and 20 per cent from Mysore paper mills or Kerala newsprint project or both.

NURSING AIDE WINS BOOK PRIZE

Mrs Rukshana Smith, who works part-time as a nursing aide and owes her Indian fore name to an Indian grandmother, has won a major book prize for her first novel, Sumira's Story.

The novel deals with the life of a young Indian girl growing up in Britain's multiracial society, a British High Comonission release says.

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TRANSLATIONS IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES

The following 15 countries produced the largest number of translations during the year 1981; USSR 6,937, Federal Republic of Germany 6,558 Spain 5,097; Netherlands 2,843; Japan 2,489; Italy 1,986; Denmark 1,918; Belgium 1,902; United States of America 1,604; Sweden 1,417; Yugoslavia 1,382; Hungary 1,259; United Kingdom 1,176; Turkey 1,000.

PUBLISHERS' PROBLEMS UNDER STUDY

The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has undertaken a study of the state of the book publishing industry, particularly the small publishers. "Small" publishers are those who bring out 40 titles every year on an average and with print orders normally being not less than 1,000 copies.

MORE INDIAN BOOKS FOR CHINA

China's book purchases from India this year are likely to be doubled compared with 1981. Last year, India exported to China books worth Rs 10 lakhs.

China was interested in Indian publications for research and reference work in science and technology. China is also interested in Government publications and proceedings of seminars and symposia, besides monograph papers.

BHU RELEASES CULTURAL ETHOS ALBUMS

Bharat Kala Bhavan of the Banaras Hindu University, has launched a project to present the country's cultural ethos through the publication of attractive albums. The first 2 albums narrating the popular themes of Radhakrishna and the Ramayana have been published and released.

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AWARD OF PRIZES TO THE BEST HINDI LAW BOOKS

Government of India Awards ten prizes upto Rs 10,000 each, every year to the authors of best Law books written/published in Hindi during the calendar year 1982 would be accepted for consideration upto 15th January, 1983.

For full details and prescribed entry forms, please write to : The Publication-cum-Sales Manager, Vidhi Sahitya Prakashan, Legislative Department, Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs, ILI Building, Bhagwan Dass Road, New Delhi-110001.

DR. AMRIK SINGH LAYS DOWN OFFICE

Dr Amrik Singh M.A. (Pb) Ph. D. (London) joined the Inter-University Board of India on 1.7.65. It was in 1975 that the Inter-University Board of India became the Association of Indian Universities. During this period of over 17 years Dr Amrik Singh built up the Association to what it is today.

During this period he also served as Director of the South Campus of the University of Delhi for a period of two years and Vice-Chancellor of the Punjabi University, Patiala again for a period of two years.

He laid down office on 30th September, 1982. At a farewell function got up by the staff of the AIU he recalled his association with this organisation which spanned almost half of his active working life.

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CAPEXIL NEWS

Meeting with the Commerce Secretary

The Books Panel Chairman, Mr. Asoke Ghosh had detailed discussions with the Commerce Secretary in an effort to gain a larger share of books export in the international market. To achieve this aim the following remedial measures have been suggested.

Publishing as Industry

Publishing should be recognised as an industry for the purpose of bank finance in order to transfuse the much needed funds into this trade. In fact, it is already recognised as an industry by the Central Board of Direct Taxes for the purpose of taxation. Hence it is imperative that publishing be treated as an industry atleast for the purpose of export packing credit. It was stressed that unlike other industrial exports, book exports being more than a mere foreign exchange earner helps in better friendly relation and cultural ties with the overseas countries, and hence high priority should be given to the publishing trade to expand its export trade.

Cash Compensatory Support

Export marketing cost is very high involving separate and specific promotional campaign for each title. Indian publishers do not get any effective support from the government to popularise Indian books and authors overseas. Against this background of heavy constraint, the CAPEXIL has vigorously made out a case for the increase of Cash Compensatory Support from 7.5 per cent to 15 per cent.

Trade Discount

In the face of very tough competition from our worldwide competitors who give as much as 70 per cent trade discount, the government must allow a trade discount of at least 50 per cent to book exports. To strengthen our case, relevant documentary evidence had been received by our importers.

Concessional Air Freight

Transportation of books by sea in many cases takes more than six months and as such it has become essential to send export consignment by air. The prohibitive cost of air freight makes it essential to provide concessional air freight for books to all major destinations covered by Air India.

Credit Realisation

Present GR-I provision for realisation of export proceeds within 180 days is not conducive for export of books. It was recommended that the time limit for the realisation of the export proceeds should be raised to atleast 360 days.

RBI refuses to renew or grant blanket premit if there is more than 10 percent outstanding export realisation. This creates enormous problem for the book trade as in most cases books are sold on credit/collection basis. It was suggested that the limit of outstanding realisation should be relaxed from 10 per cent to 30 per cent in the case of books.

Tax Rebate

I. Income Tax Act needs to be modified to cover all export promotion/development expenses including cost of supply of free samples, follow-up of overseas tenders etc. for the purpose of weighted deduction. The rate of weighted deduction should be raised to 150 per cent keeping in view the sizable increase in overseas Air Fare and export marketing expenses.

II. The linking of tax relief with the export profit does not provide any effective benefit to the exporters of manufactured books as in most cases the margin of profit on export is negligible. This fact should be taken into account and the provision of the new section 89 (A) of the Income Tax Act should be suitably modified.

Export Target

It is a happy augury that the export figure crossed Rs. 10 crores in 1981-82, and with active measures taken up towards boosting promotional efforts, a target of Rs. 15 crores has been fixed for 1982-83. It is progressively increased to Rs. 20 crores for 1983-84 and Rs. 26 crores for 1984-85.

Indo-Pak Book Exchange

CAPEXIL Books Panel Chairman has written to Commerce Secretary urging the Government to open a dialogue with Pakistan for import-export of books, in view of President Zia's recent statement agreeing for books exchange programme

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between India and Pakistan on a reciprocal basis.

In another communication to the Commerce Ministry he has stressed that the government must in all trade agreements with other countries include printed books from India as an item of export, and pointed out as examples the absence of any mention of books in their recent agreements with Iran and Seychelles.

Trade with U.S.S.R.

The government is urged to make specific provisions in the annual trade plan with U.S.S.R. for export of books instead of a combined provision of Rs. 1.5 crores for export of books, gramophone records etc.

Books Panel's *fait accompli* on its earlier efforts : Individual Sales Tour

Thirteen individual sales teams from Books & Publications Panel have been approved for 1982-83 by the Government for effective promotional work. The panel will try to obtain sanction for a few more proposals under current year's budget. HDA sale has been increased from 25 per cent to 60 per cent.

Trade Delegation

The Ministry has approved the following tour project proposals under ITC/SIDA assistance programme for 1982-83.

Market Orientation Trade tour to U.K., U.S.A., Canada and Mexico for 22 days.

Market Orientation Trade tour to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji for 17 days.

Participation at International Book Fairs

Official support for nine international book fairs at Singapore, Frankfurt, Yugoslavia, Manila, Jakarta, Bahrain, Cairo, Melbourne and A.B.A. in addition to the Festival of India at London.

Sample Copies

The government has, at the Books Panel's request, raised the value limit of sample copies to prospective customers abroad from Rs. 5000 to Rs. 10,000, and upto 2 per per cent of the export earnings if they exceed Rs. 10 lakhs.

Effective lobbying and follow-up regarding other issues are continued to be carried on by the Books Panel.

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Oilseeds economy of India : A case study of groundnut. New Delhi, Agricole, 1982, xxii+264p. Rs 125

KATARIA, M.S.
Geography of Indian livestock and white revolution. Kurukshetra, Vishal, 1982, xxiv+142p. Rs 60

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Compendium of Indian weed science research (1950-81) 2 Vols. New Delhi, Metropolitan, 1982, 400p. Rs 200

PATIL, V.K.
Eighty years of Grape research in India (1900-81) : Abstract of literature. New Delhi, Metropolitan, 1982, 960p. Rs 350

RANGASWAMY, P.
Dry farming technology in India : A study of its profitability in selected areas. New Delhi, Agricole, 1982, xvii+212p. Rs 125

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BOOK REVIEWS

RELIGION AND THE REVOLT OF THE OPPRESSED, M.M. Thomas, Indian Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 1981, Rs. 15.00

Dr. M.M. Thomas is very well known both here and abroad as an eminent Indian theologian and ethicist. He has made a tremendous contribution to the theological and social thinking of the church in India. In his own critical and comprehensive way he has been able to reflect and evaluate the Various statements of the world council of churches, the Vatican and the Papal Encyclicals on the issue of technology and on the problem of poverty and the oppressed.

These lectures are useful particularly coming from a person who himself was involved in theeconomical movements for the last so many years. With the publication of this issue we can share these lectures with the wider public all over the world.

SLAVERY IN THE TAMIL COUNTRY: A HISTORICAL OVERVIEW, Dr. S. Manickam, The Christian Literature Society, 1982, Rs. 15.00

The author has chosen a very rare and effective topic. This attempt is made by the author to focus one of the important socio-economic institutions viz., slavery, which has received scant attention from historians of modern Tamil Nadu. Author's way of approach and presentation are not merely academic but also appeal to the emotions and feelings of the reader. He has taken pains to glean material from a variety of sources, and as a student of history the author has ably dealt with the different aspects of the subject.

The main purpose of this book is to arouse the interest of general readers in and invite the attention of scholars and students engaged in historical research to an important socio-economic phenomenon such as slavery.

GEORGI DIMITROV—SELECTED SPEECHES AND WRITINGS, People's Publishing House (P) Ltd, 1982, Rs. 20.00

This collection of speeches and other documents of comrade Georgi Dimitrov is a tribute on the occasion of his birth centenary.

The life and work of Georgi Dimitrov, the great son of Bulgaria, is indeed inseparable from the class struggle of the Bulgarian proletariat and the international working class movement from the struggle for the victory of communism throughout the world. Comrade Dimitrov is one of the tallest leaders of the world communist movement. He joined the Bulgarian Social Democratic Workers' Party founded by Dimiter Blagoev at the age of 20. At 27, in 1909, he was elected to its Central Committee, on which he remained to the end of his life.

As a leader of General Trade Union League of Bulgaria he was a consistent fighter against ideological distortion which propagated neutrality of the trade unions to keep them dissociated from the overall struggle of the working class for socialism.

Dimitrov worked as ths secretary of the West European Bureau of Comintern when fascism was raising its ugly head. He made great theoretical and practical contributions towards searching for new forms of combining the fight of the working class against fascism and for democracy with its fight for socialism. His role in the historic Leipzig fire trial became the focus of worldwide struggle against fascism.

The main feature of Georgi Dimitrov's manifold activities, the very essence of his life was proletarian internationalism, the fight for the unity of the working class and for unity of communist and workers' parties.

THE MILTON-HALL CONTROVERSY ON EPISCOPACY Rev. C.M. George Koruthu, Milind Publications Pvt. Ltd, 1981, Rs. 40.00

The author makes a well-focused scrutiny of the anti-prelatical pamphlets in order to bring out the main issues involved against the background of the times. The study provides a dramatic unfolding of one of the critical stages in the history of the Anglican Church. Himself in holy orders, Fr. George has gone deep into the theological aspects of the dispute, deeper indeed than most Indian scholars could have done.

Another focus not only on Milton but also on Bishop Hall and indeed on other participants in controversy too.

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PROGRESS FOR A SMALL PLANET—DEVELOPMENT OF MANKIND AND SOCIETY, Barbara Ward, Heritage Publishers, 1982, Rs. 95.00

Progress for a small planet shows how new attitudes backed by new, more conserving technologies can take us beyond the environmental crises and global tensions. The book contains 25 chapters which are divided into three parts.

Part One describes new technologies for recycling wastes and resources of energy, for 'getting more from less'—and how a more careful use of resources and new approaches to employment can take us beyond increasing alienation at work and a growing dole queue.

Part Two is a strategy to meet the most basic needs of the world's poor.

Part Three shows the vast inequalities between rich and poor nations can be reduced to benefit both in a masterful survey of possible policies. Barbara Ward outlines the planetary bargain between the world's nations that would guarantee every human being the right to freedom from poverty and would keep our shared biosphere in good working order.

A RULE OF PROPERTY FOR BENGAL—AN ESSAY ON THE IDEA OF THE PERMANENT SETTLEMENT (2nd edition), Ranjit Guha, Orient Longman Ltd, 1982, Rs. 55.00

A Rule of Property for Bengal focuses on the 'most disputed step in the agrarian field ever taken in India under British rule'. Author discusses the intellectual origins of the permanent settlement of land revenue in Bengal, commonly referred to as the Zamindari system. The permanent settlement, a major departure from accepted British revenue policy in India, was a turning point in Indian economic and social history.

The book considers the controversial issue of imposing European ideas on a colonial society, arguing that British administrators such as Philip Francis and Lord Cornwallis were influenced to a much greater extent by the French physiocrats than by the exigencies of the Indian conditions. It goes on to elaborate the antecedents of the Permanent Settlement in the contemporary European works of Alexander Dew, Hency Putulle and Philip Francis.

The book also discusses the conflict in outlook and ideas between Philip Francis, a man with physiocratic beliefs who was also new to India, and Warren Hastings, an experienced administrator who had faced the problems of 'settling' and 'forming' land revenue. The stake in the battle of ideas was the future economic development of India on the lives of western-style capitalism. The main purpose of the author for writing this book is to present a thought-provoking analysis on how an alien, bourgeois form of knowledge was imposed on a semi-feudal society, the consequences of which are still with us today. *According to Professor Daniel Thorner* this essay is truly a pioneering work in the intellectual origins of a bold innovation in imperial policy.

HISTORY OF INDIGENOUS EDUCATION IN THE PUNJAB SINCE ANNEXATION AND IN 1882, G.W. Leitner, Amar Prakashan, 1982, Rs. 300.00

The author has given the account without extenuation or malice, of the history of contact of the forms of Europeans with one of Asiatic civilization, how, in spite of the best intentions, the most public spirited officers and the generous government that had the benefit of the traditions of the other provinces, the true education of the Punjab was crippled, checked and was destroyed, how opportunities for its healthy revival and development were either neglected or perverted and how, far beyond the blame attaching to individuals, the system convicted of worse than official failure, whether it was possible to rouse renewed exertion. On behalf of its own education the most loyal population that had ever been disappointed, is a question with the author has attempted to answer.

Torn by invasions and civil wars the Punjab preserved and added to educational endowments. There were thousands of secular schools frequented by Muhammadans, Hindus, and Sikhs. There were hundreds of learned men who gratuitously taught their co-religionists for the sake of God. Through all schools there breathed a spirit of devotion to education for its own sake and for its influence on the character and on religious culture. The Europeans changed all. The annexation disturbed the mind of believers in Providence.

The Punjab is a classic ground. Not merely the celebrated country between the Sutlej and the Jamuna, but also the whole province teems the noble recollections.

At the end the author has added specimens of the commercial cypher in use in North of India, if not in the other parts of the country in order to show that they do afford a basis for a general contractor for the purpose of elementary education or that at any rate, they do not so perceptibly vary from place to place.

C.V. RAMAN, Under the Series *Builders of Modern India*, P.R. Pisharoty, Publications Division, 1982, Rs. 8.00

Under the series 'Builders of Modern India' Publications Division has published a very useful book on Prof. C.V. Raman. The author Sh. P.R. Pisharoty has been a student of Professor Raman.

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indomitable will, he rose to great heights in the world of science.

Raman has been the greatest figure India has produced in the area of scientific research. And in 1930 he won the Nobel Prize for Physics for the discovery of an optical phenomenon, later known as the Raman's effect.

On the Indian side he was the person who really wanted to make India strong in the field of science. For this he constructed a research institute for the young scientists.

The author has tried to present the story of Raman, the man, the teacher and the scientist, so that it may act as a source of inspiration to the young men and women of our land. So it is a very useful volume for getting information about the life and works of the great Indian scientist.

INDUSTRIAL M.P. :5 th Revised Edition, Chief Editor : S.L. Soni, Industrial M.P., Indore, Rs. 145/-

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How National Language Problem is Solved in the U.S.S.R.

KUCHKAR KHANAZAROV

The USSR, as well as many other countries of the world, is a multilingual state. Its peoples speak nearly 130 ethnic languages. Nevertheless, there are no language antagonisms or conflicts in the Soviet Union. How was this complex problem solved? The answer to this can be found in the book by Prof. Kuchkar Khanazarov*, Director of the Uzbek Institute of Philosophy and Law.

The author stresses that the language problem was always very acute in pre-revolutionary Russia. The tsarist government did not recognize the equality of nations and of their languages. The use of the Russian language was proclaimed compulsory in all spheres of Russia's state and social life, and it was imposed upon all the nations inhabiting the country. It is only natural that such encroachment upon the rights of national minorities could not but give rise to conflicts; as a result, this policy hampered the development of the national languages. Quite a number of nations did not have the elementary conditions necessary for the emergence of a written language. The fact is borne out by figures cited in Khanazarov's book: only 13, out of 130 languages in tsarist Russia, had their own written languages.

The Soviet government, which came to power in 1917, renounced the policy of the old regime aimed at eliminating national distinctions and impeding the development of national languages. The author refers to numerous documents issued by the Soviet government. One of them, such as "The Declaration of Rights of the Peoples of Russia" says that the activity of the government shall be based on the equality and sovereignty of the peoples of Russia, and on a free development of the national minorities inhabiting the territory of Russia.

Khanazarov shows how the Soviet government consistently reinforced its declarations by concrete actions. All the national languages were raised to the level of state languages. Numerous schools were built all over the country in which the children were taught in their national languages. Everyone was free to choose a national or a Russian school to send their children to.

Vladimir I. Lenin, founder of our state, said that if all languages were equal and if there were enough schools with instruction carried out in every nation's own language, the working people of different nationalities would themselves soon come to see which language was more convenient and expedient for them to speak. Lenin's words have been confirmed by life, stresses Khanazarov. Any citizen of the Soviet Union extensively uses his own ethnic language and at the same time tries to master Russian. Why Russian? Even in pre-revoluntionary Russia most of the population spoke Russian, because as is known, economic considerations cause the nations inhabiting one country to speak the language of the majority.

The author of the book goes on to say that the general tendency is that the percentage of people who regard their national language as their native tongue is gradually going down due to their voluntary transition to other languages, Russian being the first among them. Russian is gradually becoming a second native language for all the peoples of the USSR, it is increasingly

*The book is to be published in Russian by the Moscow Politizdat Publishers this year.

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getting to be part and parcel of the Soviet people's life. Many novels and stories by representatives of non-Russian nationalities of the USSR, are now written in Russian. Among the authors who write in Russian. are Chinghiz Aitmatov, a Kirghiz, Georgy Gulia, an Abkhazian, Yuri Rytkheu, a Chukchi, and others.

But isn't the tendency to master and use Russian detrimental to the development of ethnic languages? The author cites a lot of data showing that the proliferation of Russian on the territory of the USSR does not at all impede the development of ethnic languages. It is proved, among other things, by the fact that not a single national language in the country has turned into a dead language, has gone out of use in the years of Soviet power. Moreover, our national languages have developed even further. It is, in the first place, evidenced by the emergence of written languages for all the nations that did not have them before. In the years of Soviet power tremendous research has been carried out to study the national languages and ways of developing them. A great number of linguistic research centres are operating in the country. Owing to their work there are no uninvestigated languages left in the Soviet Union; numerous grammars have been written, as well as reference-books for their study; a vast number of bilingual dictionaries (national-Russian and Russian-national) have been published. The author points out that at present 99.6 per cent of the USSR's population have written languages of their own. Only very small national groups that number from 150 to 2,000 people did not deem it necessary to evolve their written languages.

The author furnishes some other interesting figures which testify to the development of national languages: 67 languages are used for broadcasting and 42, for theatre performances.

The conclusion that can be made from Khanazarov's book is that the Soviet Union has found an optimum way of solving the national language problem. It is a free development of national languages on the basis of their equality.

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—K.N. Prasad 1982 606pp Rs 200

This work is based on the author's wide experience of and research in India's Economic Development. He examines the causes of the sluggish growth of the nation's economy and points out, in a very clear and incisive manner the reasons for the pockets of backwardness of some specific area. In three parts the book explores the national dimensions and the regional dimensions, and examines the cause for the backwardness of the Bihar region. In the last part, he outlines the need for an institutional approach to these problems.

Dr. Prasad is presently Head of the Department of Economics in Patna University, and is the author of our best selling book, 'Problems of Economic Development in the Third World' with special reference to India.

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INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY
is published monthly by Sterling Publishers Pvt Ltd., L-10, Green Park Extension, New Delhi 110016.

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Printed and published by Shri O.P. Ghai at Sterling Printers, L-11, Green Park Ext., New Delhi-110016.

Vol. XXVI No. 4 *July 1982*

CONTENTS

REMODELLING LEGAL EDUCATION 7
—*Krishan Mahajan*

DRASTIC CHANGES IN LEGAL EDUCATION 11
—Courtesy : *Indian Express*

NEWS & EVENTS **15**

LAW BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 1982 17

MONTHLY LISTING **19**

INTERNATIONAL NUMBER ANNOUNCEMENT 24

BOOK REVIEWS **25**

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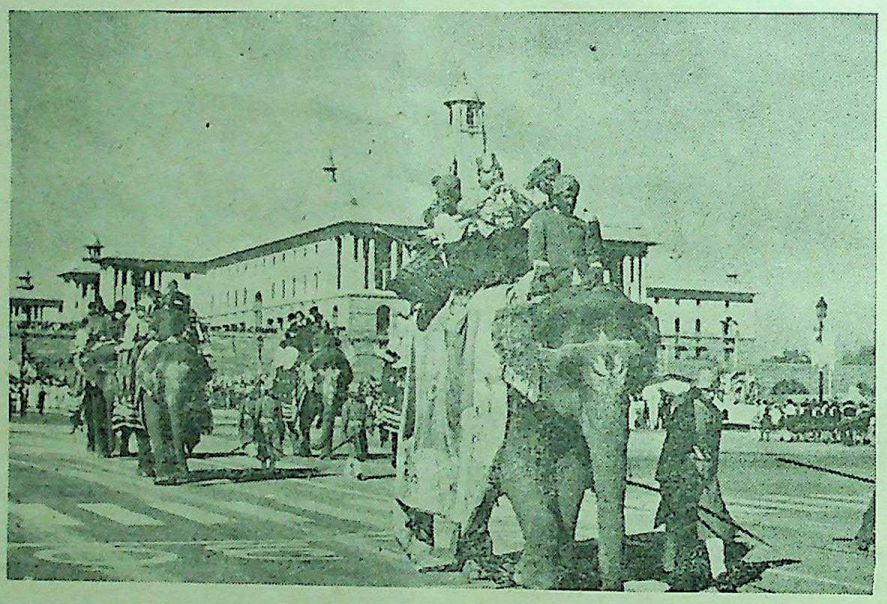

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REMODELLING LEGAL EDUCATION

KRISHAN MAHAJAN

Legal education in India has registered a steep fall in standards since Independence. Several attempts have been made to reform it, but without much success. The latest proposals of the Bar Council for a five-year degree course and the establisment of a National Law School are also unlikely to improve matters. For in formulating them, due notice has not been taken of the basic needs of the profession and the role legal education should play in a developing country like India.

The Bar Council's recent proposals to institute a five-year degree course after 10+2 and establish a National Law School at Bangalore are unlikely to improve the quality of legal education in India. The advocates and professors constituting the Council's Legal Education Committee have never defined the goals of legal education under the Advocates Act. The reforms announced by them have not taken into account planning of syllabi, recruitment of teachers, organisation of teaching materials and physical facilities.

This lack of application of mind by members of the Committee is illustrated by the new rules framed by the Bar Council to give effect to the 10+2+5 system. One of the rules states that for the purposes of enrolment as an advocate the Council will recognise only that law degree which has been obtained after undergoing a course of study "for a minimum period of five years." However, Section 23 of the Advocates Act, under which this rule has been made, declares that a person is entitled to be enrolled as an advocate if he has obtained his law degree after "undergoing a three year course of study in law". Surely a rule cannot amend the very Act under which it is made.

The five-year course has been split into a two-year "pre-law" and a three-year law course. But the degree under the proposed rule can only be obtained after five years. The new rule further requires that the five-year degree should be obtained from a "duly recognised law college". Such a college should be located at a place where there is a district court or circuit district court. It must impart teaching for at least five and a half hours every day. Only fifty per cent of its teaching staff should consist of part-time teachers. There should be a building and a library fund. Each class should have a maximum of 320 students in a year. Compulsory subjects for the first two years and the three-year law course have been prescribed, as also the optional law subjects. If these conditions are violated the Council can recommend disaffiliation of the college.

The rules are contrary to the provision of the Act which under Section 49 permits the Council to frame rules regarding standards of legal education to be observed by "universities" and not individual colleges. Under Section 7(h) standards of education are to be laid down in consultation with the universities and the State Bar Councils. The rules have been framed by the Council without awaiting the response of most of the universities and State Councils. From among those who have sent replies, an overwhelming number, including Uttar Pradesh which has the largest number of law students, lawyers and courts, have opposed the abolition of part-time morning or evening courses.

The rules, if brought into force, will remain mostly on paper since most universities have pleaded lack of funds and most law colleges have pointed out the impossibility of having their own buildings for full day-time courses.

Under Section 24 of the Act, the Bar Council has only the power to recognise or derecognise the degree awarded by a university. It cannot disaffiliate a college or a university department teaching law.

The rules suggest that entry to the five-year degree course will be barred to those who have not joined it after qualifying in 10+2. Denial of admission to graduates would infringe the fundamental right to receive education for practising any profession. This would also violate the right to equality because it cannot be rationally argued that a graduate is in a worse position than a 10+2 student to pursue a law degree course. Neither medical nor engineering education, with which comparison is often

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sought to be made, prohibits graduates from taking up these courses.

In any case it is not possible to have an edifice built on 10+2 by 1984—the deadline stipulated in the rules. So far, only 15 States and eight Union Territories are in various stages of implementing the 10+2 programme. In Uttar Pradesh, it will come into force only by 1983.

The Council, it seems, set out on its task of reforming legal education without obtaining any idea of the conditions prevailing in the States. Under the Advocates Act, it is required to look after standards of legal education only to the extent that these relate to entry to the profession. Not more than 30 per cent of law students take up the profession.

Under Section 48B of the Act the Council should have directed its units in the States to collect data about the background of those wanting to join the profession, their reasons for doing so, the problems they face in entering practice and the general conditions prevailing in the profession. Since courts and lawyers must march together in an interdependent relationship, it was essential to know the conditions in the courts, the language used for transacting court work and the quality of law reports and texts available in the local languages or in Hindi.

On this basis, the Council should have given freedom to its constituent state units to send in schemes for improving legal education by linking facilities available in the law colleges or departments of their respective areas with the needs of the profession. Such schemes should have been in the form of rules under Section 24(e) of the Act which empowers the State Bar Councils to prescribe the additional conditions that a law graduate must fulfil before being enrolled. The Council could have co-ordinated these schemes and maintained standards by exercising its powers under Section 28(3) to approve the rules of the state units before they take effect.

However, in the 20 years of operation of the Advocates Act, members of the Legal Education Committee or the Bar Council have not collected this data or set up a regular information network. Today the council does not even know the exact number of legal education institutions and their students what their law degrees stand for and the cost of training a law student. The Council should not be surprised to find that its scheme of giving practical training to law students in the last six months of the five-year course does not work because there may not be the requisite number of advocate with whom to place the students. None should be surprised if students from Bihar, U.P. and Gujarat rise in revolt against the Council's attempt to enforce certain standards of English, because in these states most of the court work is done in their mother-tongue. The Council has mentioned that the course outline for the pre-law period is given in Appendices A-G. But there are no appendices, the course outline not having been prepared.

The impulse for rational reform could have come from the Union Government and the High Courts. Both have not exercised their powers under Section 49A and 34 of the Act empowering them to make rules in regard to the category of persons who can practise as advocates.

The Council could have collected this data by enforcing existing standards through its power of inspecting the universities which run law courses or have under them law colleges awarding the law degree. But the Council has been hesitant on this score as it has been in enforcing the rule of five-yearly elections in state units like Tamil Nadu. Part IV Rule 3 required the Council to find out from August, 1, 1971, whether law colleges were holding the proficiency test in English for those receiving education in a language other than English. Nothing has been done in this regard.

Derecognising a university degree poses a problem for the Council since it would apply both to legal institutions imparting exceptionally good education and to those merely collecting money in the name of legal education. The Council should have asked the Government to amend the Act and empower it to derecognise a college or an institution violating the norms prescribed by it. This it never did. The press release on the five-year course says earlier reforms have been only a "marginal significance and that many law colleges continue to be mere "teaching shops". It fails to state its own role in this sad state of affairs.

The real issue however concerns the role of legal education in a poor country like India. Unlike medicine and engineering, legal education can never be entirely tailored to a career in the courts. The reason is that it leads to a diversity of careers which no other discipline provides. We cannot afford to have expensive and separate institutions for all kinds of legal education. There must be an integrated faculety with integrated courses, revolving around a central theme relevant to our needs. This should help us avoid the mistakes committed in medical and engineering education.

A full-fledged course of legal education must have at its core a minimum economic needs programme, including production structures with supporting institutions in the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors, annual legislative agendas of legislatures and court decisions. The skills component should consist of court imparting the mechanics of

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court operations and the basics of advocacy.

There are several benefits of postulating this as the goal or core of legal education. The minimum needs programme introduces the economic consensus among all political parties, teaches a relatively privileged class about mass destitutions and provides ample scope for field studies as well as court work. Primary, secondary and tertiary sectors, that is argriculture, industry and services, focus on the Indian economic and social reality, the internationally standardised pattern of modernisation we are aiming at—a growth pattern that raises production by reducing manpower in the agricultural sector without a proportionate increase of jobs in industry and the service sector resulting in slums of poverty. Finally, the legislative agenda along with court decisions brings in law as related to the minimum economic needs programme and production structures. All the three—minimum economic needs, production structures and legislative agenda-cum-court decisions —ensure an automatic mechanism for the incorporation of changes in legal education.

This goal of legal education can be made operational in two ways. The first is to introduce these three factors into all the 28 papers prescribed, before the announcement of the new rules, by the Bar Council. This should be within easy grasp of the elite law institutions in the metropolitan towns, since a vast volume of literature already exists on these subjects. The Bar Council, the UGC and the ICSSR could pool their resources to act as a clearing-house for these materials at the State and national levels. This would mitigate the absence of library facilities complained of in most law colleges.

Within this framework vocational education will be of two types: first, court craft especially for those wanting to become lawyers, and for paralegal staff. The second set of courses would lead directly to jobs in banking, business (agricultural and industrial), media, archives, city planning, taxation and criminal law jobs. Most of the courses will be of two years' duration.

The final component of the integrated scheme would be a two-year pass and a three-year honours course in law for those wanting to join the IAS.

The second method would be to have a complete overhaul aimed at a distant future for breaking away from central planning and the trickle-down theory of development. This would mean reorganising all the 28 papers into divisions like agriculture, industry and services and preparing courses based on boards of local revenue development officials, and voluntary agencies.

Seen in this context the syllabi prescribed under the new rules have several shortcomings. The first year's papers nowhere mention the need for training in accounts, business organisation, social science techniques, statistical methods, reading of maps and land revenue records and a knowledge of territorial units like police, judicial, development, revenue ration, voters and postal districts. Subjects have been introduced without linking them with law.

In the next three years the compulsory papers will be the same as those for the old three-year course. No one has said that taxation cannot be taught without accounts and must include indirect taxes since these provide most of our budgetary revenue. In the optionals overlapping papers on law and social change, law and poverty, law and rural development, law and planning and law and local sell-government have been cobbled on to the existing ones.

The options are becoming clearer. We should either have a relevant legal education or face the danger of the younger generation raising the banner of revolt. The Bar Council can choose between repeating the history of regional politics through the proposed National Law School in the South and remodelling legal education. We have argued for an alternative reconstruction.

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Drastic Changes in Legal Education

Legal education in the country will undergo important changes from the new semester beginning in June. Under the new system evolved by the Bar Council of India, there will be a five-year course for a bachelor of law degree after class XII a broad-based curriculum and greater stress on practical training.

A National Law School will be established in Bangalore to streamline a system of education which has been "much abused." The college, an autonomous body, will serve as pace-setter for legal education in the country.

Announcing this at a press conference on Wednesday, Mr Ranjit Mahanty, chairman of the Bar Council, said that legal education was in shambles, Studying law had become the choice of dropouts.

He said that after discussions for the last six years experts from the Bar Council, the law panel of the University Grants Commission, the Legal Education Committee, the Union, ministries of Education and Law and Jurists had thrashed out a system which would be implemented by certain universities in June. The last year for implementation by all universities was 1984-85.

There are 300 law colleges in the country.

Under the new scheme the students will save one year. A student today has to put in six years after class XII to become a law graduate. Under the new system he will get the law degree in five years.

Mr Mahanty said that while the duration of the law course would remain the same, three years, there would be a pre-law study for two years. For the first two years, sociology, economics, political science, history, legal language and legal methodology would be taught.

The list of compulsory subjects has been enlarged to take into account new developments in law. The optional list has been changed to include subjects of inter-disciplinary nature. "Law and poverty" will be one of the important subjects included in the syllabus.

Teaching will see a radical change with the introduction of case law, widely used in the United States. Mr M. Hidayatullah, Vice-President, will be the editor-in-chief of the publication on constitutional law, and Justice P.N. Bhagwati the editor-in-chief of the publication on taxation.

Mr Mahanty said that practical training discontinued in the sixties would be reintroduced with certain modification. Legal education suffered greatly in the absence of professional training. Practical training would include preparation of briefs and arguments, court craft, professional ethics and approaches to advocacy.

The scheme proposes a five hours and a half of daily teaching with a library schedule of eight hours a week. Fifty per cent of the teaching faculty will be full-time teachers.

Mr Mahanty said that 48 per cent marks would be the minimum requirement for admission to the law course. No law school would be allowed to have more than 1,600 students.

The Bar Council has introduced a placement scheme for the 10 best students from every law school. These students will be placed with senior advocates or in the offices of advocates-general, public prosecutors and law secretaries. They will receive a monthly stipend of Rs 300.

Criticising, the rapidly declining standards in legal education, Mr Mahanty said that a case study in Tamil Nadu showed that barely 16 per cent of law graduates practised law. A law college, which he declined to name, had 7,800 students on its rolls.

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NEWS & EVENTS

DYNAMICS OF LABOUR MANAGEMENT INTERACTION

Union Labour Minister Bhagwat Jha Azad has released Omesh Saigal's book, Dynamics of Labour Management Interaction at a seminar on industrial relations in public enterprises.

'HINDU TEMPLES'

Recently a book titled 'Hindu Temples' by Shri Narayan Chaturvedi has been released with photographs by Kishore Parekh.

FIRST HINDI THESAURUS

Inexactitude in the use of words in the works of a good number of Hindi authors provided a retired army officer to "sit up and do something about it"

Lt-Col S.B. Misra, in nine long years has pored out countless volumes and mingled with literary and ordinary people of many parts of north India to compile a thesaurus of nearly 1,00,000 words, said to be the "first of its kind attempted in Hindi."

INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR MALTA FAIR

Malta International Book Fair will be held from 7-11 April, 1983 at Malta.

BELGRADE BOOK FAIR

In Belgrade, International Book Fair will be held during 25-31 October, 1982.

ARTISTS NAMED FOR AWARDS

Mr Satish Gujral, eminent painter, Mr Ramanand Eshwaran, Mridangam Vidwan, and Mr Shrikant Verma, noted Hindi writer, will receive the Sahitya Kala Parishad awards for 1981.

The award carries a cash prize of Rs 5,000 and bronze figurine of Goddess Saraswati.

AWARDS & PRIZES, PAKISTAN

The Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad, has announced the Iqbal Award for the best books published on the subject of the Iqbal in the national and regional languages of Pakistan during 1977 to 1979.

According to an article published recently Dr Javed Iqbal's Urdu work, Zinda Rawad, and Dr Mohammed Maru's book in English, Iqbal's Religious Philosophy, have been declared the best qualified for which they will each be awarded Rs 10,000 by the University.

Hayat-e-Iqbal of Ghulam Ghaus Sabin in Balcuhi and Professor Sharif Kunjahi's translation in verse of Javed Nama have been awarded Rs. 5,000 each. As no book on this subject has been published in Sindhi

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and Pushto during the said period, an award will be presented posthumously to the late Professor Lutfullah Badavi, Iqbal's Sindhi translator Amir Hamza Shinwari for their translations of Iqbal's works.

NOTE ON THE CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Good Offices Committee is a voluntary organisation formed to stabilise and introduce uniform terms of book supplies to ensure a fair working margin to booksellers and an efficient service to the Libraries. The Committee consists of representatives drawn from the Government of India Library Association, Delhi Library Association, Delhi JNU and Jamia University Libraries, ICAR, INSDOC, DESIDOC, CSIR., National Medical Library, IIT, Federation of Publishers' and Booksellers' Association in India, Federation of Indian Publishers' Association and University Grants Commission.

A NEW BUDDHIST CENTRE

The six-year-old Nagarjuna University located between Vijayawada and Guntur in Andhra Pradesh, will be living up to its name with the inauguration of the Mahayana Buddhist Studies Chair/Centre by His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the King of Bhutan.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has made a beginning with the grant of Rs 3 lakhs that will be utilised for acquisition of Books on Buddhism.

CHEAPER PAPER DEMANDED FOR COPY-BOOKS

Delhi Copy Book Manufacturers Association President G.L. Sachdeva urgedLt-Governor S.L. Khurana to resume supply of concessional paper to members of the association for manufacture of exercise books for students.

32ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DELHI STATE BOOKSELLERS & PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION

The following office bearers were elected at the 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Delhi State Booksellers and Publishers' Association which was held on 27th June, 1982 at Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi.

OFFICE BEARERS

1. Mr Bhupinder Chowdhari, President, The English Book Store, 17-L, Connaught Place, New Delhi.
2. Mr M.G. Arora, Vice President, Universal Book Traders, 80, Gokhale Market, Opp. High Court, New Delhi.
3. Mr S.C. Sethi, Secretary, Jaico Book distributors, G-2/16, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi-2
4. Mr Rakesh Chandra, Joint Secretary, New Book Depot, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001.
5. Mr M.D. Bhojwani, Treasurer, India Book Distributors, B-6, Gulmohar Park, New Delhi.

ANAND APPOINTED HONORARY EDITOR

Dr Mulk Raj Anand, a noted writer, and the former editor of 'Marg' has been appointed honorary editor of the arts books to be published by the Publications Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

In his career of 50 years, Dr Anand has written 12 novels, half a dozen short stories, and several other materials. He is also a member of the 'Media' advisory committee of the information and broadcasting.

SAHITYA AKADEMY AWARD FOR MANIPURI STUDENT

A Student of Manipuri University, Mr R.K. Elangbam, has won the Sahitya Akademy Award for his book Kalenthagi Leipaklei. This book is a collection of Mr Elangbam's short-stories. Using social and political problems of Manipur as their backdrop the short stories of Mr Elangbam are entrancing.

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PERSPECTIVES ON BHABANI BHATTACHARYA (Indo-English Writers Series), Ramesh Srivastava (Ed), Ghaziabad, Vimal Prakashan, 1982, Rs 80.00

Recently much attention is being paid to the writings of Indo-Anglican writers. These writers have come to the forefront by dint of their own talents as well as their patrons. Bhabani Bhattacharya is one such popular Indo-Anglican novelists. Bhabani Bhattacharya's contribution in the English Language is immense. Although several aspects of his writings have been published, many more are left which need a careful study. The book serves a multifarious purpose. The volume analyses widely various aspects of his writings. And the collection is sure to be of immense value for the students, scholar and critics in understanding and evaluating Bhattacharya's work.

THE BIBLE, THE QURAN AND THE SCIENCE, Murice Bucaille, Aligarh, Crescent Publishing Co., Rs 75.00

The religious texts like Old Testament, the Gospel and the Quran have been interpreted in many ways. And in the midst of these interpretations many preconceived ideas were attached to these. Maurice Bucaille makes an attempt to clear away many of these preconceived ideas about these holy books. And he tried to separate the original form of the Revelation from the exaggerated interpretation. And to his great credit his interpretation has to a large extent thrown new light on the Holy Scriptures. He places the believer before a point of cardinal importance the continuity of a Revelation emanating from the same God., with mode of expression that differs in the course of time.

THEMES IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND CHILD GUIDANCE, B.D. Bhatia, Delhi, Doaba House, 1982, Rs 60.00

The book divided into two parts deals with multifarious problems on child development. The first part contains chapters on selected themes in child development covering some significant issues such as Piaget's Theory of cognitive development, theoretical perspective on language acquisition, growth in the infancy, the importance of early stimulation, parent-adolescent relationships, ego-identity in adolescence, the impact of the changing Indian-Family on child development etc. Part II deals with important issues in child guidance.

The book Jare of its kind serves the purpose for many a number of readers. It is of immense value for the students of psychology, child development and child guidance, students of home science, pediatric nurse, pediatric doctors and psychiatric nurso. Besides these even the parents and the teachers get good guidance from it.

ARDHAKATHANAKA : HALF A ALE, Mukund Lath, Jaipur, Rajasthan Prakrit Bharati Sansthan, 1981, Rs 150.00

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THEORY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, M.A. Muttalib & Mohd. Akbar Ali Khan, Sterling Publishers, New Delhi, 290pp. Rs 100.00

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THE FIRST CONGRESS RAJ PROVINCIAL AUTONOMY IN BOMBAY by Rani Dhavan Shankar Dass, Delhi, Macmillan India Ltd., 286pp+viii, Rs. 85.00

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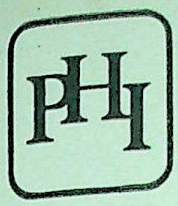

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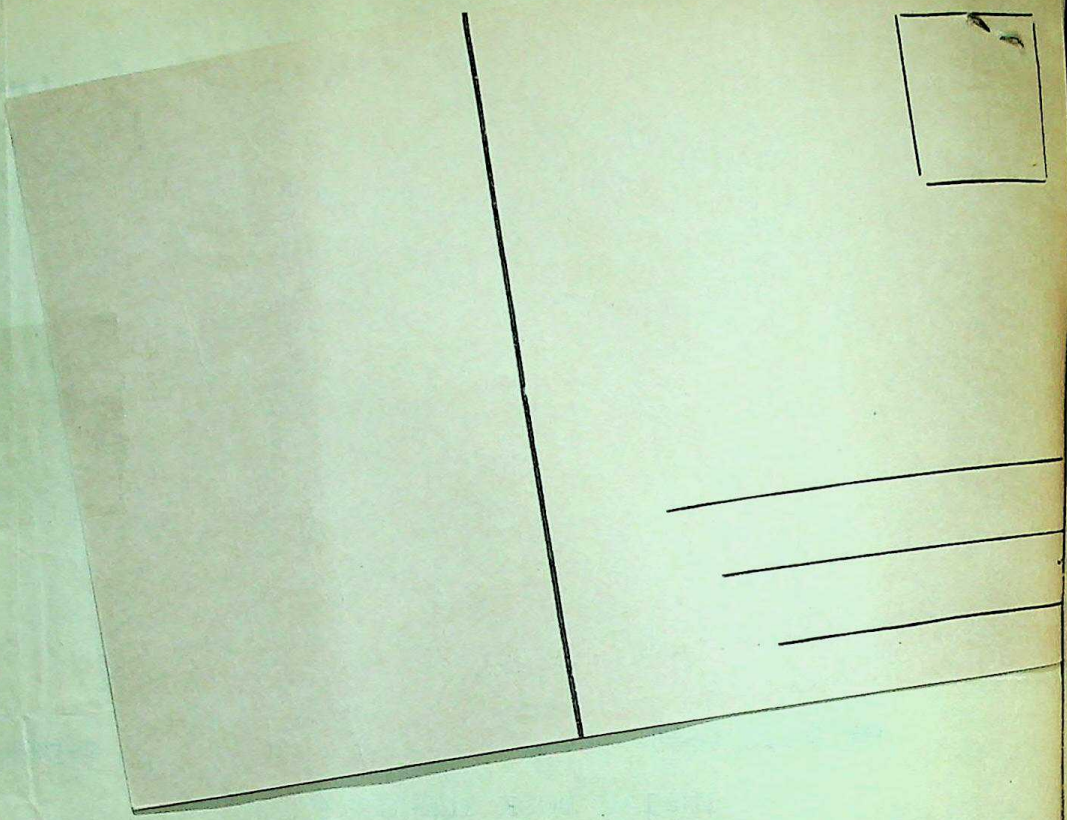

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CONTENTS

REMODELLING LEGAL EDUCATION 7
—*Krishan Mahajan*

DRASTIC CHANGES IN LEGAL EDUCATION 11
—Courtesy : *Indian Express*

NEWS & EVENTS **15**

LAW BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 1982 17

MONTHLY LISTING **19**

INTERNATIONAL NUMBER ANNOUNCEMENT 24

BOOK REVIEWS **25**

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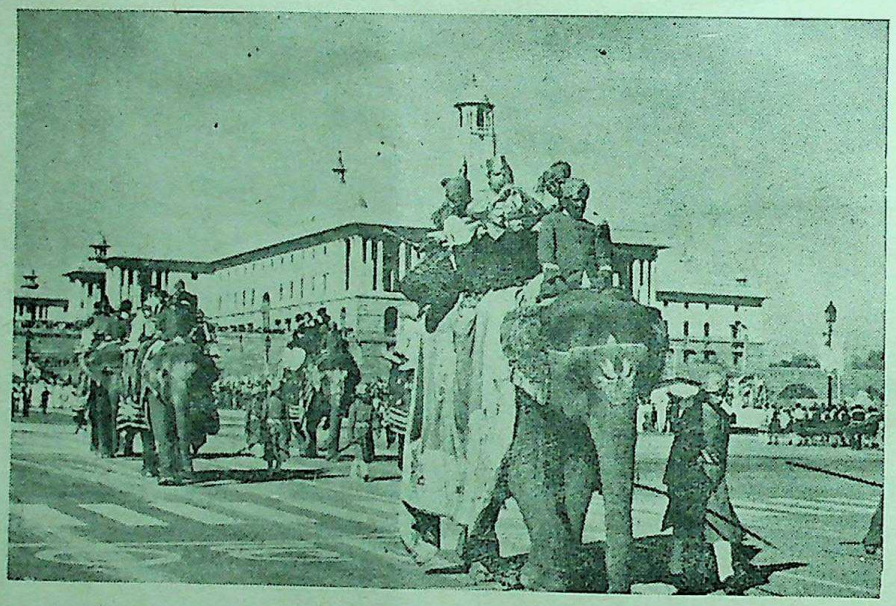

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REMODELLING LEGAL EDUCATION

KRISHAN MAHAJAN

Legal education in India has registered a steep fall in standards since Independence. Several attempts have been made to reform it, but without much success. The latest proposals of the Bar Council for a five-year degree course and the establisment of a National Law School are also unlikely to improve matters. For in formulating them, due notice has not been taken of the basic needs of the profession and the role legal education should play in a developing country like India.

The Bar Council's recent proposals to institute a five-year degree course after 10+2 and establish a National Law School at Bangalore are unlikely to improve the quality of legal education in India. The advocates and professors constituting the Council's Legal Education Committee have never defined the goals of legal education under the Advocates Act. The reforms announced by them have not taken into account planning of syllabi, recruitment of teachers, organisation of teaching materials and physical facilities.

This lack of application of mind by members of the Committee is illustrated by the new rules framed by the Bar Council to give effect to the 10+2+5 system. One of the rules states that for the purposes of enrolment as an advocate the Council will recognise only that law degree which has been obtained after undergoing a course of study "for a minimum period of five years." However, Section 23 of the Advocates Act, under which this rule has been made, declares that a person is entitled to be enrolled as an advocate if he has obtained his law degree after "undergoing a three year course of study in law". Surely a rule cannot amend the very Act under which it is made.

The five-year course has been split into a two-year "pre-law" and a three-year law course. But the degree under the proposed rule can only be obtained after five years. The new rule further requires that the five-year degree should be obtained from a "duly recognised law college". Such a college should be located at a place where there is a district court or circuit district court. It must impart teaching for at least five and a half hours every day. Only fifty per cent of its teaching staff should consist of part-time teachers. There should be a building and a library fund. Each class should have a maximum of 320 students in a year. Compulsory subjects for the first two years and the three-year law course have been prescribed, as also the optional law subjects. If these conditions are violated the Council can recommend disaffiliation of the college.

The rules are contrary to the provision of the Act which under Section 49 permits the Council to frame rules regarding standards of legal education to be observed by "universities" and not individual colleges. Under Section 7(h) standards of education are to be laid down in consultation with the universities and the State Bar Councils. The rules have been framed by the Council without awaiting the response of most of the universities and State Councils. From among those who have sent replies, an overwhelming number, including Uttar Pradesh which has the largest number of law students, lawyers and courts, have opposed the abolition of part-time morning or evening courses.

The rules, if brought into force, will remain mostly on paper since most universities have pleaded lack of funds and most law colleges have pointed out the impossibility of having their own buildings for full day-time courses.

Under Section 24 of the Act, the Bar Council has only the power to recognise or derecognise the degree awarded by a university. It cannot disaffiliate a college or a university department teaching law.

The rules suggest that entry to the five-year degree course will be barred to those who have not joined it after qualifying in 10+2. Denial of admission to graduates would infringe the fundamental right to receive education for practising any profession. This would also violate the right to equality because it cannot be rationally argued that a graduate is in a worse position than a 10+2 student to pursue a law degree course. Neither medical nor engineering education, with which comparison is often

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sought to be made, prohibits graduates from taking up these courses.

In any case it is not possible to have an edifice built on 10+2 by 1984—the deadline stipulated in the rules. So far, only 15 States and eight Union Territories are in various stages of implementing the 10+2 programme. In Uttar Pradesh, it will come into force only by 1983.

The Council, it seems, set out on its task of reforming legal education without obtaining any idea of the conditions prevailing in the States. Under the Advocates Act, it is required to look after standards of legal education only to the extent that these relate to entry to the profession. Not more than 30 per cent of law students take up the profession.

Under Section 48B of the Act the Council should have directed its units in the States to collect data about the background of those wanting to join the profession, their reasons for doing so, the problems they face in entering practice and the general conditions prevailing in the profession. Since courts and lawyers must march together in an interdependent relationship, it was essential to know the conditions in the courts, the language used for transacting court work and the quality of law reports and texts available in the local languages or in Hindi.

On this basis, the Council should have given freedom to its constituent state units to send in schemes for improving legal education by linking facilities available in the law colleges or departments of their respective areas with the needs of the profession. Such schemes should have been in the form of rules under Section 24(e) of the Act which empowers the State Bar Councils to prescribe the additional conditions that a law graduate must fulfil before being enrolled. The Council could have co-ordinated these schemes and maintained standards by exercising its powers under Section 28(3) to approve the rules of the state units before they take effect.

However, in the 20 years of operation of the Advocates Act, members of the Legal Education Committee or the Bar Council have not collected this data or set up a regular information network. Today the council does not even know the exact number of legal education institutions and their students what their law degrees stand for and the cost of training a law student. The Council should not be surprised to find that its scheme of giving practical training to law students in the last six months of the five-year course does not work because there may not be the requisite number of advocate with whom to place the students. None should be surprised if students from Bihar, U.P. and Gujarat rise in revolt against the Council's attempt to enforce certain standards of English, because in these states most of the court work is done in their mother-tongue. The Council has mentioned that the course outline for the pre-law period is given in Appendices A-G. But there are no appendices, the course outline not having been prepared.

The impulse for rational reform could have come from the Union Government and the High Courts. Both have not exercised their powers under Section 49A and 34 of the Act empowering them to make rules in regard to the category of persons who can practise as advocates.

The Council could have collected this data by enforcing existing standards through its power of inspecting the universities which run law courses or have under them law colleges awarding the law degree. But the Council has been hesitant on this score as it has been in enforcing the rule of five-yearly elections in state units like Tamil Nadu. Part IV Rule 3 required the Council to find out from August, 1, 1971, whether law colleges were holding the proficiency test in English for those receiving education in a language other than English. Nothing has been done in this regard.

Derecognising a university degree poses a problem for the Council since it would apply both to legal institutions imparting exceptionally good education and to those merely collecting money in the name of legal education. The Council should have asked the Government to amend the Act and empower it to derecognise a college or an institution violating the norms prescribed by it. This it never did. The press release on the five-year course says earlier reforms have been only a "marginal significance and that many law colleges continue to be mere "teaching shops". It fails to state its own role in this sad state of affairs.

The real issue however concerns the role of legal education in a poor country like India. Unlike medicine and engineering, legal education can never be entirely tailored to a career in the courts. The reason is that it leads to a diversity of careers which no other discipline provides. We cannot afford to have expensive and separate institutions for all kinds of legal education. There must be an integrated faculety with integrated courses, revolving around a central theme relevant to our needs. This should help us avoid the mistakes committed in medical and engineering education.

A full-fledged course of legal education must have at its core a minimum economic needs programme, including production structures with supporting institutions in the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors, annual legislative agendas of legislatures and court decisions. The skills component should consist of court imparting the mechanics of

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court operations and the basics of advocacy.

There are several benefits of postulating this as the goal or core of legal education. The minimum needs programme introduces the economic consensus among all political parties, teaches a relatively privileged class about mass destitutions and provides ample scope for field studies as well as court work. Primary, secondary and tertiary sectors, that is argriculture, industry and services, focus on the Indian economic and social reality, the internationally standardised pattern of modernisation we are aiming at—a growth pattern that raises production by reducing manpower in the agricultural sector without a proportionate increase of jobs in industry and the service sector resulting in slums of poverty. Finally, the legislative agenda along with court decisions brings in law as related to the minimum economic needs programme and production structures. All the three—minimum economic needs, production structures and legislative agenda-cum-court decisions—ensure an automatic mechanism for the incorporation of changes in legal education.

This goal of legal education can be made operational in two ways. The first is to introduce these three factors into all the 28 papers prescribed, before the announcement of the new rules, by the Bar Council. This should be within easy grasp of the elite law institutions in the metropolitan towns, since a vast volume of literature already exists on these subjects. The Bar Council, the UGC and the ICSSR could pool their resources to act as a clearing-house for these materials at the State and national levels. This would mitigate the absence of library facilities complained of in most law colleges.

Within this framework vocational education will be of two types: first, court craft especially for those wanting to become lawyers, and for paralegal staff. The second set of courses would lead directly to jobs in banking, business (agricultural and industrial), media, archives, city planning, taxation and criminal law jobs. Most of the courses will be of two years' duration.

The final component of the integrated scheme would be a two-year pass and a three-year honours course in law for those wanting to join the IAS.

The second method would be to have a complete overhaul aimed at a distant future for breaking away from central planning and the trickle-down theory of development. This would mean reorganising all the 28 papers into divisions like agriculture, industry and services and preparing courses based on boards of local revenue development officials, and voluntary agencies.

Seen in this context the syllabi prescribed under the new rules have several shortcomings. The first year's papers nowhere mention the need for training in accounts, business organisation, social science techniques, statistical methods, reading of maps and land revenue records and a knowledge of territorial units like police, judicial, development, revenue ration, voters and postal districts. Subjects have been introduced without linking them with law.

In the next three years the compulsory papers will be the same as those for the old three-year course. No one has said that taxation cannot be taught without accounts and must include indirect taxes since these provide most of our budgetary revenue. In the optionals overlapping papers on law and social change, law and poverty, law and rural development, law and planning and law and local sell-government have been cobbled on to the existing ones.

The options are becoming clearer. We should either have a relevant legal education or face the danger of the younger generation raising the banner of revolt. The Bar Council can choose between repeating the history of regional politics through the proposed National Law School in the South and remodelling legal education. We have argued for an alternative reconstruction.

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Drastic Changes in Legal Education

Legal education in the country will undergo important changes from the new semester beginning in June. Under the new system evolved by the Bar Council of India, there will be a five-year course for a bachelor of law degree after class XII a broad-based curriculum and greater stress on practical training.

A National Law School will be established in Bangalore to streamline a system of education which has been "much abused." The college, an autonomous body, will serve as pace-setter for legal education in the country.

Announcing this at a press conference on Wednesday, Mr Ranjit Mahanty, chairman of the Bar Council, said that legal education was in shambles, Studying law had become the choice of dropouts.

He said that after discussions for the last six years experts from the Bar Council, the law panel of the University Grants Commission, the Legal Education Committee, the Union, ministries of Education and Law and Jurists had thrashed out a system which would be implemented by certain universities in June. The last year for implementation by all universities was 1984-85.

There are 300 law colleges in the country.

Under the new scheme the students will save one year. A student today has to put in six years after class XII to become a law graduate. Under the new system he will get the law degree in five years.

Mr Mahanty said that while the duration of the law course would remain the same, three years, there would be a pre-law study for two years. For the first two years, sociology, economics, political science, history, legal language and legal methodology would be taught.

The list of compulsory subjects has been enlarged to take into account new developments in law. The optional list has been changed to include subjects of inter-disciplinary nature. "Law and poverty" will be one of the important subjects included in the syllabus.

Teaching will see a radical change with the introduction of case law, widely used in the United States. Mr M. Hidayatullah, Vice-President, will be the editor-in-chief of the publication on constitutional law, and Justice P.N. Bhagwati the editor-in-chief of the publication on taxation.

Mr Mahanty said that practical training discontinued in the sixties would be reintroduced with certain modification. Legal education suffered greatly in the absence of professional training. Practical training would include preparation of briefs and arguments, court craft, professional ethics and approaches to advocacy.

The scheme proposes a five hours and a half of daily teaching with a library schedule of eight hours a week. Fifty per cent of the teaching faculty will be full-time teachers.

Mr Mahanty said that 48 per cent marks would be the minimum requirement for admission to the law course. No law school would be allowed to have more than 1,600 students.

The Bar Council has introduced a placement scheme for the 10 best students from every law school. These students will be placed with senior advocates or in the offices of advocates-general, public prosecutors and law secretaries. They will receive a monthly stipend of Rs 300.

Criticising, the rapidly declining standards in legal education, Mr Mahanty said that a case study in Tamil Nadu showed that barely 16 per cent of law graduates practised law. A law college, which he declined to name, had 7,800 students on its rolls.

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NEWS & EVENTS

DYNAMICS OF LABOUR MANAGEMENT INTERACTION

Union Labour Minister Bhagwat Jha Azad has released Omesh Saigal's book, Dynamics of Labour Management Interaction at a seminar on industrial relations in public enterprises.

'HINDU TEMPLES'

Recently a book titled 'Hindu Temples' by Shri Narayan Chaturvedi has been released with photographs by Kishore Parekh.

FIRST HINDI THESAURUS

Inexactitude in the use of words in the works of a good number of Hindi authors provided a retired army officer to "sit up and do something about it"

Lt-Col S.B. Misra, in nine long years has pored out countless volumes and mingled with literary and ordinary people of many parts of north India to compile a thesaurus of nearly 1,00,000 words, said to be the "first of its kind attempted in Hindi."

INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR MALTA FAIR

Malta International Book Fair will be held from 7-11 April, 1983 at Malta.

BELGRADE BOOK FAIR

In Belgrade, International Book Fair will be held during 25-31 October, 1982.

ARTISTS NAMED FOR AWARDS

Mr Satish Gujral, eminent painter, Mr Ramanand Eshwaran, Mridangam Vidwan, and Mr Shrikant Verma, noted Hindi writer, will receive the Sahitya Kala Parishad awards for 1981.

The award carries a cash prize of Rs 5,000 and bronze figurine of Goddess Saraswati.

AWARDS & PRIZES, PAKISTAN

The Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad, has announced the Iqbal Award for the best books published on the subject of the Iqbal in the national and regional languages of Pakistan during 1977 to 1979.

According to an article published recently Dr Javed Iqbal's Urdu work, Zinda Rawad, and Dr Mohammed Maru's book in English, Iqbal's Religious Philosophy, have been declared the best qualified for which they will each be awarded Rs 10,000 by the University.

Hayat-e-Iqbal of Ghulam Ghaus Sabin in Balcuhi and Professor Sharif Kunjahi's translation in verse of Javed Nama have been awarded Rs 5,000 each. Another book on this subject has been published in Sindhi

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and Pushto during the said period, an award will be presented posthumously to the late Professor Lutfullah Badavi, Iqbal's Sindhi translator Amir Hamza Shinwari for their translations of Iqbal's works.

NOTE ON THE CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Good Offices Committee is a voluntary organisation formed to stabilise and introduce uniform terms of book supplies to ensure a fair working margin to booksellers and an efficient service to the Libraries. The Committee consists of representatives drawn from the Government of India Library Association, Delhi Library Association, Delhi JNU and Jamia University Libraries, ICAR, INSDOC, DESIDOC, CSIR., National Medical Library, IIT, Federation of Publishers' and Booksellers' Association in India, Federation of Indian Publishers' Association and University Grants Commission.

A NEW BUDDHIST CENTRE

The six-year-old Nagarjuna University located between Vijayawada and Guntur in Andhra Pradesh, will be living up to its name with the inauguration of the Mahayana Buddhist Studies Chair/Centre by His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the King of Bhutan.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has made a beginning with the grant of Rs 3 lakhs that will be utilised for acquisition of Books on Buddhism.

CHEAPER PAPER DEMANDED FOR COPY-BOOKS

Delhi Copy Book Manufacturers Association President G.I.. Sachdeva urgedLt-Governor S.L. Khurana to resume supply of concessional paper to members of the association for manufacture of exercise books for students.

32ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DELHI STATE BOOKSELLERS & PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION

The following office bearers were elected at the 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Delhi State Booksellers and Publishers' Association which was held on 27th June, 1982 at Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi.

OFFICE BEARERS

1. Mr Bhupinder Chowdhari, President, The English Book Store, 17-L, Connaught Place, New Delhi.
2. Mr M.G. Arora, Vice President, Universal Book Traders, 80, Gokhale Market, Opp. High Court, New Delhi.
3. Mr S.C. Sethi, Secretary, Jaico Book distributors, G-2/16, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi-2
4. Mr Rakesh Chandra, Joint Secretary, New Book Depot, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001.
5. Mr M.D. Bhojwani, Treasurer, India Book Distributors, B-6, Gulmohar Park, New Delhi.

ANAND APPOINTED HONORARY EDITOR

Dr Mulk Raj Anand, a noted writer, and the former editor of 'Marg' has been appointed honorary editor of the arts books to be published by the Publications Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

In his career of 50 years, Dr Anand has written 12 novels, half a dozen short stories, and several other materials. He is also a member of the 'Media' advisory committee of the information and broadcasting.

SAHITYA AKADEMY AWARD FOR MANIPURI STUDENT

A Student of Manipuri University, Mr R.K. Elangbam, has won the Sahitya Akademy Award for his book Kalenthagi Leipaklei. This book is a collection of Mr Elangbam's short-stories. Using social and political problems of Manipur as their backdrop the short stories of Mr Elangbam are entrancing.

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ELECTION ARCHIVES, CA-33, Tagore Garden, New Delhi- 110027

SHIV LAL, *Ed.* International electoral politics and law : Asia series no. 7. (China—Japan etc. also including Formosa, Kampuchea, Laos, North and South Vietnam, North and South Korea and Mongolia.) 1982. 1000p Rs 840

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Cambridge mini dictionary. New Delhi, Pankaj Publication, 1982, 424p. Rs 10

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BOOK REVIEWS

INTER RELIGIOUS MARRIAGES, Usha Bambawale, Pune, Dastane, 1982, Rs 45.00

Inter religious marriage is one of the major social problems of our country. The book based on the first-hand knowledge i.e. interviews with inter religiously married husbands and wives is written in simple, lucid style. The text analyses qualitatively the significance of this social phenomenon going at a slow rate in India. The discussion makes an assessment of the religious factor in both pre-marital and post-marital phases. One important salient feature of the book is it makes an indepth study of certain cases that add importance to the book.

PERSPECTIVES ON BHABANI BHATTACHARYA (Indo-English Writers Series), Ramesh Srivastava (Ed), Ghaziabad, Vimal Prakashan, 1982, Rs 80.00

Recently much attention is being paid to the writings of Indo-Anglican writers. These writers have come to the forefront by dint of their own talents as well as their patrons. Bhabani Bhattacharya is one such popular Indo-Anglican novelists. Bhabani Bhattacharya's contribution in the English Language is immense. Although several aspects of his writings have been published, many more are left which need a careful study. The book serves a multifarious purpose. The volume analyses widely various aspects of his writings. And the collection is sure to be of immense value for the students, scholar and critics in understanding and evaluating Bhattacharya's work.

THE BIBLE, THE QURAN AND THE SCIENCE, Murice Bucaille, Aligarh, Crescent Publishing Co., Rs 75.00

The religious texts like Old Testament, the Gospel and the Quran have been interpreted in many ways. And in the midst of these interpretations many preconceived ideas were attached to these. Maurice Bucaille makes an attempt to clear away many of these preconceived ideas about these holy books. And he tried to separate the original form of the Revelation from the exaggerated interpretation. And to his great credit his interpretation has to a large extent thrown new light on the Holy Scriptures. He places the believer before a point of cardinal importance the continuity of a Revelation emanating from the same God., with mode of expression that differs in the course of time.

THEMES IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND CHILD GUIDANCE, B.D. Bhatia, Delhi, Doaba House, 1982, Rs 60.00

The book divided into two parts deals with multifarious problems on child development. The first part contains chapters on selected themes in child development covering some significant issues such as Piaget's Theory of cognitive development, theoretical perspective on language acquisition, growth in the infancy, the importance of early stimulation, parent-adolescent relationships, ego-identity in adolescence, the impact of the changing Indian-Family on child development etc. Part II deals with important issues in child guidance.

The book rare of its kind serves the purpose for many a number of readers. It is of immense value for the students of psychology, child development and child guidance, students of home science, pediatric nurse, pediatric doctors and psychiatric nurso. Besides these even the parents and the teachers get good guidance from it.

ARDHAKATHANAKA : HALF A ALE, Mukund Lath, Jaipur, Rajasthan Prakrit Bharati Sansthan, 1981, Rs 150.00

Written during the hey days of the Mughal rule in 1641 A.D. the Ardhakathanka is an unique autobiography in the Indian tradition. Written in a colloquial mixture of Brajbhasa and the eastern dialects of Hindi, it is characterised by a candid self-revelation associated with modern autobiographical works.

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It is also valuable as a living document which projects a historical age through the experiences of a sensitive and uncommon man who yet belonged to the common populace.

COMMERCE EDUCATION, M.S. Khan, Sterling Publishers, New Delhi, 140pp. Rs 50.00

Commerce is one of the strongest and most influential social institutions in all societies today. Therefore, teaching of Commerce as a subject assumes a special significance if proper management and distribution of products of industry and profession are to be ensured. A unique characteristic of this book is that it has covered both the principles and practices of Commerce education and the methods of teaching different branches of Commerce education. Four methodologies of teaching facts, skills, problem solving and attitudes—have been dealt with in great detail.

THEORY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, M.A. Muttalib & Mohd. Akbar Ali Khan, Sterling Publishers, New Delhi, 290pp. Rs 100.00

There are several studies on urban and rural Local Governments and even on urban and rural sectors combined. But theory-building in the field of Local Government is a rare phenomenon in the academic or administrative world. The present volume is a pioneering effort in this direction. The authors place Local Government in the socio-economic frame of a country and interpret Local Government theory in the context of a democracy and development.

ABC OF EXPORT MARKETING, M. Sampangi, Sterling Publishers, New Delhi, 150pp. Rs 60.00

There is a wide international market for Indian exports, particularly in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. An enterprising exporter wishing to tap or capture the market needs to be thoroughly well versed in the basic formalities and export procedures of export marketing. A good handbook delineating the various phases or stages involved in export marketing is, however, lacking. The present volume attempts to fill in this gap. It seeks to educate small industrialists and interested exporters on the intricacies and procedures of export marketing.

THE FIRST CONGRESS RAJ PROVINCIAL AUTONOMY IN BOMBAY by Rani Dhavan Shankar Dass, Delhi, Macmillan India Ltd., 286pp+viii, Rs. 85.00

A focus on the activities of Congress in the province of Bombay the book brings to light what changes were brought out by the replacement of British by the Congress Government. As the main idea of author is to examine what happens when a government is replaced by another one, there is an extensive comparison of what the British had done in the province and what the Congress did when it came into office. The book is a dependable one as its analysis is based on interviews, private papers of Viceroys and Governors and various Congress and non-Congress leaders and also on private conversations with some Congress men and women who were actively involved with the Bombay Congress in 1937.

COMMENTARY ON CUSTOMS ACT (3rd Edition) by T.P. Mukherjee, Allahabad, Law Publishers, 1424pp+xxiv, Rs 170.00

There was an utter need of comprehensive commentary on the custom laws in India. The law relating to customs duties was first enacted as early as in 1878. But this was confined only to the sea customs. It was followed by land customs and air customs. In the beginning the custom administration was not very complicated. But with the rapid industrialization of the country the legislature in every respect got more and more complicated. Time to time amendments had become indispensable. Thus the long need of a widelydealt-in text has been fulfilled by this book. The chapters like Temporary Detention of Baggage Power to Examine Persons, Seizure of Goods, Documents and Things are not only but for the experts in the legislature, also help to a great extent the common people in having a background about custom acts and their various amendments.

After the first and second editions were published there came a vast changes in the field due to very many caselaw and amendments which have been incorporated in the third edition.

BACKWARD AREA DEVELOPMENT: PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS Edited by D.M. Nanjundappa & R.K. Sinha, New Delhi, Sterling Publishers, 400pp Rs 150.00

In Indian economy the gap between the 'developed' and 'backward' states is increasing decade after decade and the emergence of marked regional disparities in our developmental processes have been worrying the planners for quite some time. Of late it has been widely realised that there is urgent need for giving special attention to the development of backward areas in the country. This volume is a timely and commendable attempt in this direction.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS by Rama S. Melkote & A. Narasimha Rao, New Delhi, Sterling Publishers, 240pp Rs 60.00

This book introduces to the reader the developments in International Relations since World Ward I. It is more in the nature of a guided tour rather than an analytical study of world politics. The choice and range of the events covered are such that it enables the reader to understand the factors that condition International Relations and qualifies him to appreciate the present and future perspectives of world politics.

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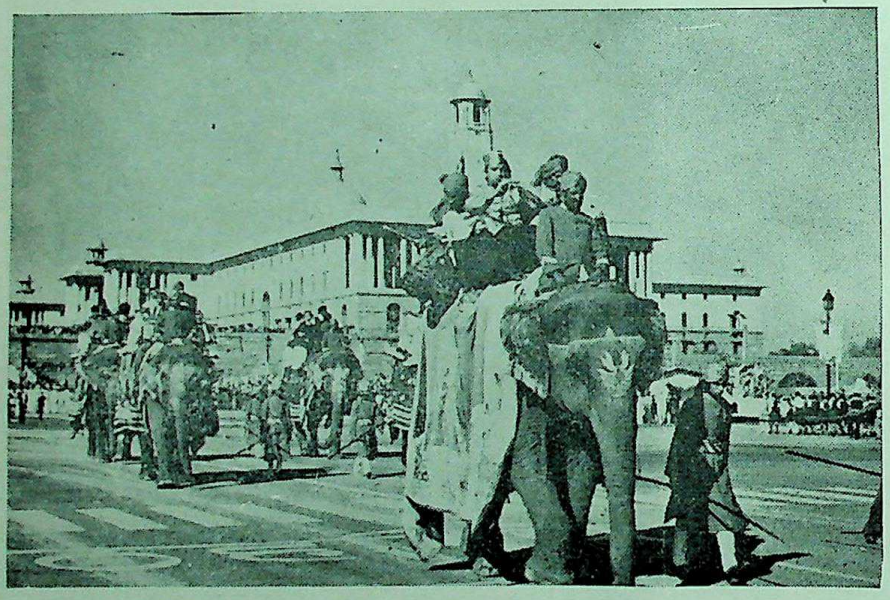

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Book Production and Distribution Journal

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INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY
published monthly by Sterling Publishers Pvt Ltd., L-10, Green Park Extension, New Delhi 110016.

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Printed and published by Shri O.P. Ghai at Sterling Printers, L-11, Green Park Ext.,

Vol. XXVII No. 1 *October 1982*

CONTENTS

INDAAL CONFERENCE—A Report 5
—S. Ansari, Librarian, Dr. Zakir Husain Library Jamia Millia Islamia

PLR IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES : Problems & Prospects 11
—Suraj Parkash Nagpal, Senior Librarian (Central State Library)

FROM THE FILES OF AN AUTHOR, PUBLISHER 13

FEDERATION NEWS 15

NEWS & EVENTS 17

CAPEXIL NEWS 21

MONTHLY LISTING 23

BOOK REVIEWS 30

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Indian Association of Academic Librarians Third Annual Conference*

The roots of founding of the INDAAL may be traced to a meeting of the Central University Librarians held in Delhi University on May 8, 1973. The idea first mooted there continued to attract more adherents and resulted ultimately into the first National Convention of University & College Librarians held at the Sapru House, New Delhi, in April 1975. The meeting of the founder-members took place on August 28, 1977, at 35 Feroze Shah Road, New Delhi, and the Indian Association of Academic Librarians came into being with the following aims and objects :

Objects

The aims and objects of the Association shall be :

(a) To help promote the professional efficiency of the Academic Librarians;

(b) To work for improving the professional and social status of the Academic Librarians;

(c) To advocate, secure and safeguard the rights and privileges of the members of the Association;

(d) To help the Academic Librarians to fulfil their professional obligations;

(e) To promote the professional solidarity of the Academic Librarians and of the Librarian/Teacher fraternity as a whole;

(f) To promote studies and discussions on all professional matters affecting the academic librarians and library science education;

(g) To take up publication programme pertaining to the fulfilment of the aims and objects of the Association; and

(h) To cooperate with the organisations of teachers and librarians with similar objectives.

During half a decade of its existence the Association has arranged the following professional activities.

First Annual Conference, April 1979, New Delhi.

Topics for discussions: (a) Decision making in academic libraries (b) Academic libraries and society (c) Standards for college libraries (d) Academic content of librarianship.

Second Annual Conference, January 1980, Tirupati.

Topics for discussion: Innovation in academic library services.

INDAAL Seminar on future of library planning and design, October 1980, New Delhi.

INDAAL Seminar on subscription to periodical publication.

INDAAL-American Center Library joint workshop on Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules 2, 1981.

The Third Annual Conference of the Association was hosted by the Jamia Millia Islamia. The Association had earlier approved the following two topics for discussion at the Conference:

1. Staffing Pattern for College and University Libraries.
2. Budgeting for books and periodical publications in academic libraries.

The inaugural session of the Conference was held in a specially erected Shamiana in the campus of the Jamia on February 12, 1982, at 10.30 a.m. It was attended by delegates, distinguished guests and students of the Department of Library Science from Delhi University and from Nagpur University. More than 70 delegates had specially come from all parts of the country to attend the Conference.

The Conference began with a welcome by Mr S. Ansari, Librarian, Dr Zakir Husain Library, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. Mr Ansari recalled for the delegates the innovative role of the Jamia in the field of education and the association of Prof. S.R. Ranganathan with the Jamia and its activities in the field of non-formal education. Mr Mohd Fazal, Member, Planning Commission while inaugurating the Conference said that education and libraries were two sides of a coin and they could not be separated

* Reprt prepared by S. Ansari, Librarian, Dr Zakir Husain Library, Jamia Millia Islamia.

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from each other. Librarians, according to Mr Fazal, have a crucial role to play in promoting education, enlightenment and understanding among the people. College and university education is the most important stage in the pattern of higher education. It is a terminal stage providing manpower for the professions, research, educational activities, economic development, industry, political, educational management and other important activities of the nation. The quality of manpower made available will definitely reflect the strong contributions made by the academic librarians in the education of the people. Mr Fazal gave details of expenditure made by the country on libraries in the V Plan. During the sixth Five-Year Plan, i.e., 1980-85 there is a total outlay of Rs. 6.66 crore under the Centre for the development of libraries. The expected expenditure during the 2 years, i.e., 1980-81 and 1981-82 is likely to be Rs. 2.18 crore. Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation established by the Union Ministry of Education to promote the library movement in the country has made significant contribution in developing the public library system in the country. There is an outlay of Rs. 125 lakhs during the sixth Plan for the major programmes of this Foundation. Coming over to the academic libraries he said that a provision of Rs. 14.57 crores had been made by the University Grants Commission which extended grants to the universities and colleges for the development of their libraries under the sixth Five-Year Plan. Out of this Rs. 4.57 crores are meant for the development of college libraries. Mr Fazal emphasized the importance of management in libraries and said, "It would be stating the obvious that it is just not enough to stock books, but it is much more important to organise libraries in such a fashion that they are indeed continuous centres of "pilgrimage" of students interested in education, industry, politics, business, etc., where they could have the facilities and opportunities for the improvement of their intellect and knowledge". In this national endeavour libraries have a great role to play so that various segments of the society are not involved in petty issues, and in low thinking, but are committed to the overall advancement of the country, so that India does emerge a great society, for which the country has indeed tremendous potential.

The key-note address was presented by Prof. Abad Ahmad, Director, South Campus, Delhi University. Prof. Ahmad raised certain basic issues that are confronting the academic libraries. Prof. Abad Ahmad began his address with a quotation from the now famous Atkinson report to underline the role of library in a university. The management of the academic library said Prof. Ahmad was becoming a complex problem for various reasons, but chiefly because of increase in student populations and the exponential growth rate in the sum of human knowledge. The academic libraries were faced with the twin task of acquiring "at lease a certain proportion" of the increasing volume of new knowledge and providing for multiple copies of text-books. The need for periodicals, and microforms etc. was no longer confined to research level students. The university library had at least to provide for the needed material was made available, if not from its own stocks, from other places.

According to Prof. Abad Ahmad the emphasis for Ph.D. degree for teaching position in universities and colleges, makes it obligatory on the part of the library to provide the material needed by faculty members in their research work. Again a well stocked library is a strong incentive for attracting bright teachers and retaining them while summing up the functions of a University library Prof. Abad Ahmad likened it to a repository of knowledge and information that assists the students, scholars, teachers and other readers in identifying, locating and studying the relevant material. This variety in its functions warrants an efficient system for storage, classification, updating, transferring or discarding, documentation, guidance and retrieval of relevant material on the subjects.

The variety in material to be stocked and the categories of clientele to be handled requires in a librarian not only technical competence but also a great deal of human and conceptual skill.

Prof. Abad Ahmad put librarians into four broad categories of Store Keeper Librarian, the Trustee Librarian, the Bureaucrat Librarian and the Professional Librarian.

He underlined the following issues that Librarians might discuss in the two-day Conference.

1. Budget: While conceding that the shortage of fund was a universal phenomenon, he drew the attention of the Planning Commission towards the need for more funds by saying that investment in education and training and development of libraries was a vital investment for the growth of the nation and deserve a higher priority.
2. The problem of centralisation vs decentralisation and a genuine need for libraries in colleges and departments. The libraries had to decide the extent to which decentralisation was desirable and the mechanism of coordination in its working.
3. The claim of the library staff for recognition as teachers.
4. The growing shortage of space and in this context the proposal made by the Atkinson Committee.
5. The need for rationalisation in management Prof. Abad Ahmad

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laid special emphasis on possibilities of employing management techniques to library administration viz., emphasis on the Management Information System, application of behavioural sciences and quantitative techniques, management of library finances, management training methods, layout and reading space.

6. Users' education, i.e., obtaining the cooperation of readers and educating them about the use of library services. There is an increasing tendency to recognise the need for users' education. It is according to Prof. Ahmad something more than simple initiation of readers when they become library members for the first time. In this connection he said that there was a strong case for simple and applied research studies to be conducted by the libraries themselves about the needs and expectations of their readers. He also suggested for periodic surveys of the nature of collections, use of the different types of material, and scope for improvement of services.

Prof. Abad Ahmad concluded his thought-provoking address by underlining the need for evolving criteria for library efficiency and effectiveness.

Prof. A.J. Kidwai, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia who presided over the inaugural session expressed his pleasure that the Association had chosen the Jamia as the venue of their Third Annual Conference. He underlined the importance of efficient library service as the basic contribution of libraries to the academic life of universities and colleges.

The delegates reassembled in the afternoon in the Conference Room of the Jamia Millia Islamia for the business session.

The following papers were presented in the two days' session.

1. Girja Kumar and P.K. Jayaswal, Social Science Periodicals in India: Their Availability, Cost Escalation and Utilization; 2. K.S. Chudamani and N. Anuradha, Role of User Surveys in Budgeting for Libraries; 3. K.S. Deshpande, Runaway Prices and Inelastic Budgets: Problems Facing University Libraries in India; 4. Raju M. Mathew, An Alternative Approach to Manpower Needs of University Libraries in India; 5. Dr S.G. Mahajan, Staffing Pattern of University Libraries in Maharashtra; 6. R. Sreepathi Naidu, Staffing Pattern of College and University Libraries in Andhra Pradesh; 7. V. Venkateswara Rao, Staffing Pattern in Andhra Pradesh College Libraries; 8. Joginder Singh, The Academic Library in the United States for the 1980's and its Staffing Pattern; 9. N.B. Inamdar, Staffing Pattern for University College Libraries of Osmania University, Hyderabad; 10. A.P. Gakhar, Staffing Pattern in University and College Libraries: Position of Professional Assistant; 11. Madiwale, Staffing Pattern for College Libraries in the Western Region.

The various sessions of the Conference were presided over by Prof. K.A. Issac, Prof. P.N. Kaula and Prof. P.B. Mangla. The Conference adopted the following resolutions on its concluding day.

Resolutions

1. In view of the rapid expansion taking place in the responsibilities and functions of academic libraries and recognising the fact that the existing staff pattern obtaining in university and college libraries was evolved more than twenty years ago the Conference resolves that "the UGC may consider holding a Conference to discuss and develop staffing pattern and job descriptions of professional staff working in university and college libraries".

2. Recognising the fact that the academic libraries provide service to all functions of a university-teaching and research, the creation of new knowledge, and transmission of learning and culture of the present and the past to posterity, the Conference resolves that "the libraries be accorded the status of a faculty for purposes of restructuring its staff".

3. The UGC had sponsored a seminar of college librarians at Khandala (Bombay) in 1979 to discuss and evolve standards for college libraries. The standards were subsequently discussed at a meeting of the UGC Standing Committee for Libraries. The Conference resolves that "the UGC may implement standards for college libraries approved by its Standing Committee, as early as possible".

4. The Conference considers that academic centres established by the UGC need adequate library support in order to plan their teaching and research programme. It therefore resolves "to request the UGC that no academic centre be set up by it unless adequate provisions have been made for corresponding library facilities".

5. Recognising the need for research about the requirements of the various groups using the libraries, as also fuller utilisation of the library resources, the Conference resolves that "librarians in college and university libraries take up applied research studies about the new and expectations of their readers, and user education programmes".

6. The Conference views with concern the present practice of appointing honorary librarian or teacher in charge librarian in university and college libraries and "resolves that the practice of appointing honorary librarian or professor in charge of library must be discontinued without an further delay. It further resolves that only persons with proper library

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qualifications be appointed librarian in universities and colleges".

7. Recognising the role of post-graduate colleges and considering the fact that the UGC is promoting the idea of autonomous colleges, the Conference "resolves that librarians of these colleges may be granted the scale of Rs. 1200-1900".

8. Taking into consideration the fact that the qualifications for the post of Professional Assistants are the same as that of Professional Junior and recognising that corresponding post of Assistant Lecturers was upgraded by the UGC, the Conference resolves that "the Professional Assistants may also be placed in the scale of Rs. 700-1600 provided they possess the qualifications laid down for the post of Assistant Librarians".

9. In view of the alarming increase in periodical subscription rates, the Conference resolves to request academic libraries to coordinate their subscription policy so as to avoid unnecessary duplication and to improve the coverage of periodicals received in the country".

The Conference concluded in the evening of February 13, 1982, with thanks to the Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia, the authorities and staff of the Jamia in general and to the Dr Zakir Husain Library in particular. The Conference, as would be clear from the above resolutions, has fulfilled an important need of the academic librarians.

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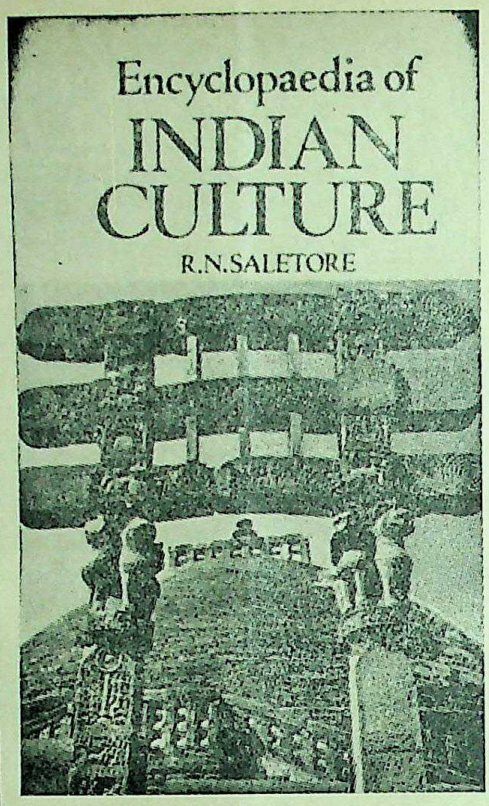

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In 1980, Soviet literary circles and the reading public marked the 125th birth anniversary of Vsevolod Garshin.

A contemporary of Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Lew Tolstoy and Anton Chekhov, Garshin occupies a place of his own in Russian literature. His work is imbued with love and compassion for humanity and a desire to fight "all the evil there is on earth". Everything he wrote is marked by talent and humanism. The collection includes 11 of the stories written in the last decade of his life, from 1877 to 1987.

K. Lagunov
MIRACLE OF THE AGE
Paper, Pp. 160, Rs 3.00

This book is by the well-known Siberian author, Konstantin Lagu-

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nov, whose home is in the city of Tyumen. Various publishers in the Soviet Union have issued over 20 of his books, including six novels, four plays and six children's books. He wrote the script for a two-part TV film. Konstantin Lagunov has the degree of Candidate of Historical Sciences. He has been honoured with government decorations: two Badges of Honour for public activity and for assisting the development of Soviet literature. Lagunov actually lives among the characters he writes about in his books. His closest friends include geologists, drillers, men who produce oil and gas, building workers, pilots and truck drivers. All that Lagunov has written is the result of first-hand knowledge of Soviet reality and active participation in his country's life.

Eduord Vilde
MILKMAN OF THE MANOR
Paper, Pp. 195, Rs 5.30

In the last quarter of the nineteenth century capitalism was rapidly penetrating into the rural economy of northern Estonia, which is the scene of the events described in Eduord Vilde's novel "Milkman of the Manor." The age of serfdom and slave labour was past, the landlords had started selling farmsteads for cash on a large scale to their former peasants and tenant farmers. And it was the dream and ambition of the peasant tenant Tonu Prillup, who had recently lost his wife, to purchase such a farm for himself. Because there must be a woman in the house to tend the cow look after the two children, he soon leads his late wife's sister, Mari to the altar.

M. Gorky
SELECTED STORIES
Cloth, Pp. 510, Rs 6.00

Maxim Gorky, the founder of Soviet literature, worked most fruitfully in the genre of the short story all through his long writing career. This collection, which is a sort of an anthology of Gorky's stories, includes his well-known stories written in the 1890s and 1900s: "Makar Chudra", "Old Izergil", "Konovalov", "Song of the Falcon", and stories from *Tales About Italy and About Russia*.

The collection demonstrates once again Gorky's great psychological insight and mastery.

M. Sholokhov
VIRGIN SOIL UPTURNED
Vol. I, Pp. 410
Vol. II, Pp. 425, Cloth
Rs 20.00 (for the set)

The works of Mikhail Sholokhov, Lenin and Nobel Prize winner and one of the greatest writers of the 20th century, have become world famous.

The first part of Virgin Soil Upturned was published in the magazine Novy Mir in 1932. However, the novel was not completed until 1960 because Sholokhov was working on his famous novel *And Quiet Flows the Don*.

Though the novel describes collectivisation in the countryside as far back as the 1930s, it still sounds contemporary.

The book also contains a preface by Anatoli Kalinin, a well-known Soviet writer, Sholokhov's friend and fellow-countryman.

Dmitry Likhachov
THE GREAT HERITAGE
Cloth, Pp. 350, Rs 9.00

The author is an expert on the history of old Russian literature. This book analyses the origin and content of the literary works of 10th-17th centuries, such as *The Sermon on Law and Grace* by Ilarion, *The Tale of Bygone Years*, *The Lay of Igor's Host*, and treatises by Archipriest Avvakum. The author marks their patriotism and civic spirit reveals the richness and variety of their language and discusses their cultural and historical traditions which served as the basis for the further development of Russian literature.

F. Dostoyevsky
STORIES
Paper, Pp. 390, Rs 5.00

"I believed and still believe that people can be good and happy without losing the ability to live on this earth. I won't and can't believe that evil can be a normal human condition," these are the words from Fyodor Dostoyevsky's story "The Ridiculous Man's Dream", and they most precisely convey the author's world perception.

"White Nights", "A Most Unfortunate Incident", "A Faint Heart", "The Meek One" and "The Ridiculous Man's Dream", included in the book, were written at different periods of Dostoyevsky's life and present different facts of his great talent.

The collection is prefaced by an article by Konstantin Fedin.

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PLR IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
Problems and Prospects

SURAJ PRAKASH NAGPAL*

Discusses the characteristics of authorship; trends in book-publishing; and modes of distribution, all under the influence of library-network to highlight the problems and prospects of PLR in a developing country. Agrees to the veracity of the case of PLR but doubts if its implementation is quite justified in a developing country like INDIA.

Logic and justice require that authors be remunerated for the use made of their works by library borrowers. It is "that the author also has a right: a right to be paid for the use of his books, instead of receiving...ten per cent of the retail price...as his final reward for one copy, that scores of readers may borrow before it falls to pieces. This right—Public Lending Right or PLR—".[1] In a way it is a social wrong to allow a book still in copyright to be borrowed from a public library (either free or on payment) without any payment of any kind to the living author.

Outwardly the matter looks too simple, but to surmount the obstacles involved in the implementation of PLR is much harder; and it all becomes even more complicated a problem when the whole matter is considered in the context of a developing country.

The indepth problems and prospects of PLR in the Indian context can be viewed under three heads :

(i) Authorship	Under the
(ii) Publishing	impact of
(iii) Distribution	library net-
	work.

Authorship

"It could be argued that our society has not yet adapted itself to the emergence of a class of professional writers, a relatively recent social phenomenon"[2] are the words of a British writer Findlater, Richard. This statement applies even more precisely to Indian authorship, because we do not have in India, many professional writers. Secondly about the motive of an author, when he writes a book. Lala Har Dayal in his famous book 'Hints for Self Culture' writes "In this book, I have tried to indicate and explain some aspects of the message of Rationalism for the young men and women of all countries. *If it helps them* in their efforts for self improvement in the last degree, *I shall be amply rewarded.*"[3]

So to say, who writes for money only? Actually our writers, write as a side job and hardly have showed any intention of making money out of their publications. Frankly, their writings are not motivated to earn money, rather they are motivated to earn fame. In other words the authorare happy to see their works in the hands of scores of readers (through libraries and other channels) than earning profits from them by sales to libraries. Hence, the authorship in India does not really stand for a case of PLR, when it is just in a stage of prenatal growth; what it really needs is the help of libraries to provide them with more and more readers so that the authorship is fully developed and given a social recognition.

Authorship in India is flourishing in many regional languages, as a result overall standard of the authors has not yet reached the optimum. Because there are not many people who can understand more than one or two regional languages, the overall readership for books is found divided; then there is a complete absence of coordination of activities

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within the literature of various languages which makes quite difficult for authors to achieve optimum standards of writing. Secondly this factor is also responsible for smaller size of editions of books, which normally is one thousand copies. Out of this one thousand copies, which are sold in about three to five years, approximately six hundred to eight hundred come in libraries. That is to say if at all the PLR is implemented, is it really worth asking for i.e. in terms of its cost benefit analysis ?

Finally library's free lending service helps in popularising and promoting the authorship. As the author is more recognised, and becomes more popular his market value increases proportionately. He is paid in advance to write, subsidies for writing, given awards and other monetary benefits. So, the libraries, which provide readership to author's books are responsible to enable him to earn all out of his writings. The popular aim of the PLR is to protect small authors but by giving PLR also the richer authors will be more rich and poor authors will remain as poor.

Publishing

Present crisis in Indian Book Publishing has obstructed many many authors to see their works in print. High cost of production combined with many other factors like, low rate of literacy, low per-capita income etc., has resulted in high prices of books, which are out of reach of the individual buyers. So to say, if 80 per cent books were not sold to libraries, publication of many titles would not have been possible. Secondly when publishers are aware of the fact that 80 per cent of the books are going to be sold in libraries, they give high ratings to their titles, further increasing the gap between high price of book and the potential buyer.

Library's role in keeping the book-publishing industry in India, alive, is undisputable, and it was further confirmed and actually felt by the publishing community during years 1978-80 when UGC in India imposed a check on the grants to the University Libraries and many major publishing programmes came almost to a halt.

Distribution

"It is sometimes argued that the existence of libraries militates against the sale of books in shops, but there is little evidence to confirm this. While one copy of a title in a public library may be loaned eighty times or more, it is improbable that all those eighty people would have purchased a copy had they not been able to borrow it. Possibly one or two might have done so. Nevertheless, many people who would not generally enter a book-shop will use a library, and in course of time may become interested : in owing as well as reading books. In developing countries where books are so scarce, libraries have of course an exceptional social importance."[4] This statement by Unesco in itself is explanatory about the potent role of libraries in creating more readership in a developing country like India. So to fight a case for PLR—and to ask for extra payment on library purchases is not quite right. Why not libraries ask authors to pay, when they promote their authorship? This view is further strengthened when F.T. Bell argues persuasively that "there is no evidence to show that the sales of my books to individuals are reduced because they can be borrowed from libraries for nothing."[5] What we need to know is, if those who buy books and those who borrow books are two fairly discrete populations. And we also need to find out what kind of materials are bought and what kind borrowed.

Very rightly Piternic, George says that "Public lending right runs directly counter to a right which still lacks a formal name. I will call the "Public Library Right"...the right of individuals to band themselves into groups to buy books and circulate those books freely among the members of the group has been unquestioned for centuries."[6]

Library's free lending service is a boon to the reading community and imposing any sort of levy on them or in book-budget of libraries, for the use of books will further mar the readership. When we already need microscopes to search for readership in India.

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From the files of an author, publisher. . .

New York, July 27, 1982

I read Ashok Chopra's article on the fate of my autobiography which was commissioned by Narendra Kumar of Vikas publishers. Apparently Mr Chopra works for Vikas, so his facts become canard when he talks about my relations with Vikas. The fact is Narendra Kumar reneged on the written contract, an unethical thing to do for any publisher, for which I could have sued for lakhs in damages. But knowing how backlogged Indian courts are, I dropped the idea. The Government of India must note that justice is not justice when not swift and easily available. According to the advice of a barrister, it was not worth fighting Vikas in the Indian courts.

Chopra states that I "dictated terms". I couldn't dictate any terms other than those in the written agreement. My side of the facts are that Narendra Kumar defaulted on a written agreement, he violated a contract. The contract stated I should provide an autobiography. In the process of writing I found I could not contain the story of my life in just one volume: the one volume I submitted to Vikas spanned only 15 years of my youth from 1924 to '39. The correspondence with Narendra Kumar became ridiculous. He wrote:

(1) India was not ready for multi-volumed autobiographies.

(2) I should bring the whole autobiography to date—some 55 years of my life compressed in the last 100 pages, which of course would make the beginning lopsided and heavy.

(3) He never replied to my suggestions.

Vikas, of course, has published multi-volumed autobiographies—Adil Jussawala's, for example. There was no stipulation on the number of volumes on my contract. Kumar returned my MS to me, mutilated and with over a hundred pages missing.

As for me stating my autobiography is sensational, it is a fact which will be hard to dispute even by masters of the English language, looking at it purely as a literary work. About my writing the London Times critic wrote that "it is remarkable by any standards," and the New Statesman, (the British paper) wrote that my writing has "qualities of genius." All this is on record and it would be silly on my part to be modest when faced with distorted lies. Moreover, my prose is read in the Bombay University.

No, the exact reason why Kumar reneged on the contract and violated his word and his honour is because Mr Srikant Verma, M.P., in his speech in Parliament (quoted partially by Chopra) said, "Let the customs release the manuscript. let Vikas publish it, and let the Government ban the book." Kumar got cold feet over the prospect of a law-suit with the Government. He was not going to bank roll a case against pornography, (like Penguins did in the case of Lady Chatterley's Lover in 1961 in England). He was going to wait until some other publishers did it, so that then Vikas, could take the profits. My verdict on the English language, that it is our heritage, is now clearly stated in The White Flag Revolution manifesto!

F.N. Souza

Vikas Publishing House Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

18th August, 1982

Mr F.N. Souza in his letter has made several statements, factual and otherwise, that are baseless and need clarification.

I will deal with the facts first: Mr Ashok Chopra, author of the article in question, is in no way associated with Vikas Publishing House; he is on the staff of the Hindustan Times Group of Publications. Second, Vikas has neither been offered, nor has it agreed to, or published any "multi-volumed" autobiographies, to date, and certainly none by Adil Jussawala, as Mr Souza states.

Mr Souza's contention that Vikas reneged on a written contract, when presented with his proposal for a multi-volumed Autobiography, is not borne out by the facts of the situation.

At no stage during our correspondence, which covered three years, did we indicate that more than a single volume would be considered. The author himself in a letter dated February 11, 1977, said, "The complexity of my book is such that I will need editorial help. You will have to help me out on it by putting someone in charge of editing this Souza Karma ms." Two and a half years into our correspondence, Mr Souza unexpectedly declared that his Autogiography would now be a 5-volume project, because "...spacing the work out this way gives me breathing time..."! We expressed our reservations, as publishers, on this decision, but indicated in writing that the matter needed further consideration.

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The "suggestions" Mr Souza made in this regard (in a letter dated June 21, 1979) were simply this: that the words "Volume 1, 1929-34" be omitted from the title of the book, to which suggestion he pre-empted a reply by declaring in the following paragraph, "But...it seems we have come to an impasse. *Therefore, it would be best if you return my manuscript with the 62 drawings, as I have an alternative publisher*". This was repeated in a letter dated September 17, 1979 in which he wrote, ..."it will be best if you regard our Agreement as null and void and return my manuscript."

The question, thus, of Vikas defaulting, on a written agreement, never arose, it is ironical, however, that even Volume 1 of Mr Souza's Autobiography remains unpublished, to say nothing of Volumes 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Our correspondence with the author on his manuscript, far from being "ridiculous", was most cordial and warm at all times, and in a letter dated April 22, 1977 he went to the extent of writing as follows: "Your correspondence is very interesting, and it should be meaningful fun to include it in a later book of my letters." He would hardly wish to include the "ridiculous".

Mr Souza's final contention that Vikas got "cold feet" is best answered by Souza himself. In a letter dated June 26, 1978, he wrote: "I ought to have mentioned in my review that Mr Narendra Kumar of Vikas ought to be complimented on his daring and insight in taking the risk of publishing complex and powerful books when most publishers only look out for profits!"

The question, therefore, is not one of developing "cold feet" in the face of a legal battle; it is, rather, one of having a case worth fighting for.

Narendra Kumar
(Managing Director)
(*Courtesy* : The Hindustan Times October 3, 1982)

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FEDERATION NEWS

RUSSIA TO BUY MORE INDIAN BOOKS

The Soviet Union will purchase more Indian books in the future. The Soviet state committee authorities on publishing, printing and book trade recently assured the President of the Federation of Indian Publishers, Mr. Narendra Kumar that there would be a substantial increase in the purchase of Indian books.

While no precise figures are available of Soviet book sales in India, the Soviet Union bought two lakh rupees worth of books from India in 1980 and five lakh rupees worth in the first seven months of 1981.

PRESS CONFERENCE ON PAPER

A Press Conference to highlight the difficulties being experienced by the publishers in India owing to non-availability of paper at reasonable price was held at the Press Club of India, New Delhi on Friday, 30 July, 1982. Shri Narendra Kumar, President of the Federation addressed the Conference and placed the facts before them.

He also released to the Press a letter he had addressed to the Prime Minister of India on 28 July, 1982.

NOMINATION OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FIP FOR CAPEXIL

The Executive Committee unanimously decided to nominate Shri Asoke K. Ghosh as representative of the FIP for CAPEXIL. The President mentioned the splendid work done by Shri Asoke Ghosh as Chairman of the Book Panel.

Thanking the Executive Committee for nominating him as their representative for a second term, Shri Ghosh assured that he would continue to work for the larger interests of Indian publishing hitherto. He took the opportunity to thank Shri Narendra Kumar for the cooperation given in his task, particularly in the meetings of the CAPEXIL.

THE CONTINUING PAPER PROBLEM

The increase in the rates of paper in India during the last 7 to 8 years has been so high that it cannot be compared with that of other countries anywhere in the world. Till 1977 paper was priced at Rs. 3.75 per kg., whereas today its price varies, between Rs. 10 to Rs. 11 per kg. The paper prices in India are among the highest in the world in spite of the fact that the wages and other factors of production are comparatively much cheaper in India, This has resulted in a rise in the prices of books which has hit not only the general public but also the students, authors and above all the publishers themselves. The rise in the prices of books results in the lower sale of books. The Government of India has undertaken mass literacy and adult education programme and this is bound to prove a failure unless the reading material is made available to the public at reasonable prices. The paper mills are creating a hue and cry and bringing pressure on the Government to review its present paper policy.

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The Federation of Indian Publishers, has made the following suggestions :

(1) The Paper Control Order which has proved a boon to the publishers, should be strictly enforced. Under the Paper Control Order 1974, the paper mills are obliged to produce 30 per cent of their total capacity as white printing paper which is sold at a concessional rate for publication of text-books.

The Order is still in force and the state-level committees set-up for distribution of this paper are also functioning in all the States. Surprisingly, the paper allotted to textbook publishers is not even 2 per cent of their genuine needs. It is important to discipline paper manufacturers so that Paper Control Order is properly implemented.

(2) Under no circumstances should the Government stop import of paper. We feel that the policy adopted by the Government to import paper through Hindustan Paper Corporation in large quantities can only stabilize prices and can also build up a buffer stock.

(3) The Government of India should not allow export of paper as has been the case so far.

(4) Publishers should be given newsprint in sufficient quantity for the publication of soft-cover editions, paperbacks, children and educational books. In view of the fact that 60 per cent of the cost of books is constituted by paper, publishers in India would require newsprint of both the standard quality and glazed quality to the tune of ten thousand metric tonnes a year. This policy should be formulated as early as possible in the interest of establishing a literate society in the country.

FORTHCOMING BOOKS FROM THE HOUSE OF STERLING

ART ARCHITECTURE & INDIAN CULTURE

Encyclopaedia of Indian Culture
Vol—III (M-R.)
—R.N. Saletore

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NEWS & EVENTS

BANGLADESH THE BOI

The BOI is a monthly journal on books with emphasis on local publications. It is published by the National Book Centre of Bangladesh, 67/A Purana Paltan, Dacca-2, Bangladesh.

INDIAN BOOKS IN LONDON

An exhibition of about 1500 of the best publications in English and various Indian languages published both by the private and the public sectors in India will be held from 25 to 30 October in the Commonwealth Institute London. It is organized by the National Book Trust of India.

GHANIAN CHILDREN'S BOOK WINS 1982 NOMA AWARD

A Ghanian author, Meshack Asare, has been awarded the 1982 Noma Prize for publishing in Africa, for his picture story book the Brassman's Secret, published by Educational Press and Manufacturers Ltd, Accra in 1981. The prize of $ 3,000 was formally presented to the winner at a special ceremony on the opening day of the 7th Ife International Book Fair, held in March this year.

FIJI WRITERS ASSOCIATION FORMED

The writers of Fiji have recently formed a professional association, the Fiji Writers Association, to promote writing in Fiji to cater for writers' needs. A literary journal, Sinnet would also be published by the Association.

The Association has formulated a programme of competitions in short story writing on the occasion of National Library Week was held from 7 to 14 August 1982. Some of the short stories, particularly prize winning stories, are to be published in book form.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

The International Research Society for Children's Literature is interested hearing from persons who are doing research in the field of children's literature, particularly literacy, historical and sociological substance of children's literature, reading or reading skills and also from persons teaching children's literature or who have presented papers to congresses or seminars.

Those interested may write to Dr K.K. Roy, 55 Gariahat Road, P.O. Box 10210, Calcutta-700019, India.

RAJAJI LITERARY AWARDS 1982

The Rajaji Literary Award was formulated by the Rajaji Centenary Committee in 1981. The purpose of this Award is to provide incentive to scholars and thinkers of eminence to undertake works promoting moral and spiritual values.

The first awards, given in 1981, were for books in Hindi and Tamil. The authors of the two books, selected in these languages, were presented with a cash prize of Rs. 10,000 and a momento each.

The 1982 awards will be given for works in Sanskirt and English languages. To be eligible for the award works should have been published and printed in India between 1 January 1976 and 31 December 1981 and should promote moral and spiritual values. The award is open to authors of Indian nationality regardless of race, religion, caste, creed or sex.

BRAILLE LIBRARY

The free Hatim Alvi Memorial Braille Library situated in the heart of the city of Karachi has been serving blind readers in the city.

The library started by Mrs Nargis Jivanji in January 1977 and named after her father, Hatim Alvi, has at present about 5,000 books and magazines in English braille. Subject covered include science; history; English literature; medicine; geography; story books like science fiction;

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adventure; detective and romantic novels and braille magazines. The library also maintains a listening library where blind are welcomed.

Hundreds of Urdu books have also been transcribed into Urdu Braille for use in the library.

JAPAN TRAINING COURSE FOR EDITORS OF PERIODICALS

The 15th Training Course on Book Production in Asia and the Pacific was held in Tokyo from 28 September to 27 October 1982.

The main purpose of this course organized by ACCU with Unesco assistance will provide opportunities for participants to refresh and increase their knowledge and skill in the publishing of periodicals. The course is also intended to be a forum for editors in Asia and the Pacific to exchange experience.

THE KERALA SASTRA SAHITYA PARISHAT (KSSP)

The Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishat, a voluntary organization, was formed by the initiative of a handful of popular science writers in 1957. The objective of the KSSP is to promote popular science literature in Malayalam. The slogan of the KSSP is "Science for Social Revolution."

One of the major objectives of KSSP is the publication of periodicals and books on science. KSSP publishes five science monthlies and one bulletin. All of the five periodicals are published for school children, whereas the bulletin is meant for the 6100 members of KSSP and contains organizational news.

So far 195 titles have been published by KSSP. These include books on topics such as *Man and Environment*, *Appropriate Technology*, and *Pollution*. Another series includes books on trades: *Wireman*, *Lineman*, *Automobile Worker*, *Press Worker* and there is a programme to teach the unqualified technicians and artisans the science behind their trade.

To bring books and ideas about science to the common man through the medium of art the KSSP organizes exhibition tours throughout the State. The first was held from 2 October to 7 November 1980 while a second with two teams was organized during 2 October to 7 November 1981.

PHILIPPINES—ISBN

The Philippines has now joined the ranks of countries which have adapted the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) system and the International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) system,

NEWSPRINT POLICY ANNOUNCED

The newsprint allocation policy for the current year announced by the Government envisages a number of relief measures to small and medium newspapers.

The entitlement of newspapers would be circulation on the basis of, inter alia, the average number of pages published in 1981.

Last year, the entitlement of the newspaper was calculated on the page level of 1979.

Small and medium newspapers with an entitlement of less than 300 tonnes will have the choice to take either imported or indigenous newsprint.

However, in view of the increased indigenous production of newsprint, newspapers with higher entitlement are required to take, at least 40 per cent of their entitlement from indigenous mills—20 per cent from Nepa mills and 20 per cent from Mysore paper mills or Kerala newsprint project or both.

NURSING AIDE WINS BOOK PRIZE

Mrs Rukshana Smith, who works part-time as a nursing aide and owes her Indian fore name to an Indian grandmother, has won a major book prize for her first novel, Sumira's Story.

The novel deals with the life of a young Indian girl growing up in Britain's multiracial society, a British High Comonission release says.

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TRANSLATIONS IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES

The following 15 countries produced the largest number of translations during the year 1981; USSR 6,937, Federal Republic of Germany 6,558 Spain 5,097; Netherlands 2,843; Japan 2,489; Italy 1,986; Denmark 1,918; Belgium 1,902; United States of America 1,604; Sweden 1,417; Yugoslavia 1,382; Hungary 1,259; United Kingdom 1,176; Turkey 1,000.

PUBLISHERS' PROBLEMS UNDER STUDY

The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has undertaken a study of the state of the book publishing industry, particularly the small publishers. "Small" publishers are those who bring out 40 titles every year on an average and with print orders normally being not less than 1,000 copies.

MORE INDIAN BOOKS FOR CHINA

China's book purchases from India this year are likely to be doubled compared with 1981. Last year, India exported to China books worth Rs 10 lakhs.

China was interested in Indian publications for research and reference work in science and technology. China is also interested in Government publications and proceedings of seminars and symposia, besides monograph papers.

BHU RELEASES CULTURAL ETHOS ALBUMS

Bharat Kala Bhavan of the Banaras Hindu University, has launched a project to present the country's cultural ethos through the publication of attractive albums. The first 2 albums narrating the popular themes of Radhakrishna and the Ramayana have been published and released.

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DR. AMRIK SINGH LAYS DOWN OFFICE

Dr Amrik Singh M.A. (Pb) Ph. D. (London) joined the Inter-University Board of India on 1.7.65. It was in 1975 that the Inter-University Board of India became the Association of Indian Universities. During this period of over 17 years Dr Amrik Singh built up the Association to what it is today.

During this period he also served as Director of the South Campus of the University of Delhi for a period of two years and Vice-Chancellor of the Punjabi University, Patiala again for a period of two years.

He laid down office on 30th September, 1982. At a farewell function got up by the staff of the AIU he recalled his association with this organisation which spanned almost half of his active working life.

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CAPEXIL NEWS

Meeting with the Commerce Secretary

The Books Panel Chairman, Mr. Asoke Ghosh had detailed discussions with the Commerce Secretary in an effort to gain a larger share of books export in the international market. To achieve this aim the following remedial measures have been suggested.

Publishing as Industry

Publishing should be recognised as an industry for the purpose of bank finance in order to transfuse the much needed funds into this trade. In fact, it is already recognised as an industry by the Central Board of Direct Taxes for the purpose of taxation. Hence it is imperative that publishing be treated as an industry atleast for the purpose of export packing credit. It was stressed that unlike other industrial exports, book exports being more than a mere foreign exchange earner helps in better friendly relation and cultural ties with the overseas countries, and hence high priority should be given to the publishing trade to expand its export trade.

Cash Compensatory Support

Export marketing cost is very high involving separate and specific promotional campaign for each title. Indian publishers do not get any effective support from the government to popularise Indian books and authors overseas. Against this background of heavy constraint, the CAPEXIL has vigorously made out a case for the increase of Cash Compensatory Support from 7.5 per cent to 15 per cent.

Trade Discount

In the face of very tough competition from our worldwide competitors who give as much as 70 per cent trade discount, the government must allow a trade discount of at least 50 per cent to book exports. To strengthen our case, relevant documentary evidence had been received by our importers.

Concessional Air Freight

Transportation of books by sea in many cases takes more than six months and as such it has become essential to send export consignment by air. The prohibitive cost of air freight makes it essential to provide concessional air freight for books to all major destinations covered by Air India.

Credit Realisation

Present GR-I provision for realisation of export proceeds within 180 days is not conducive for export of books. It was recommended that the time limit for the realisation of the export proceeds should be raised to atleast 360 days.

RBI refuses to renew or grant blanket premit if there is more than 10 percent outstanding export realisation. This creates enormous problem for the book trade as in most cases books are sold on credit/collection basis. It was suggested that the limit of outstanding realisation should be relaxed from 10 per cent to 30 per cent in the case of books.

Tax Rebate

I. Income Tax Act needs to be modified to cover all export promotion/development expenses including cost of supply of free samples, follow-up of overseas tenders etc. for the purpose of weighted deduction. The rate of weighted deduction should be raised to 150 per cent keeping in view the sizable increase in overseas Air Fare and export marketing expenses.

II. The linking of tax relief with the export profit does not provide any effective benefit to the exporters of manufactured books as in most cases the margin of profit on export is negligible. This fact should be taken into account and the provision of the new section 89 (A) of the Income Tax Act should be suitably modified.

Export Target

It is a happy augury that the export figure crossed Rs. 10 crores in 1981-82, and with active measures taken up towards boosting promotional efforts, a target of Rs. 15 crores has been fixed for 1982-83. It is progressively increased to Rs. 20 crores for 1983-84 and Rs. 26 crores for 1984-85.

Indo-Pak Book Exchange

CAPEXIL Books Panel Chairman has written to Commerce Secretary urging the Government to open a dialogue with Pakistan for import-export of books, in view of President Zia's recent statement agreeing for books exchange programme

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between India and Pakistan on a reciprocal basis.

In another communication to the Commerce Ministry he has stressed that the government must in all trade agreements with other countries include printed books from India as an item of export, and pointed out as examples the absence of any mention of books in their recent agreements with Iran and Seychelles.

Trade with U.S.S.R.

The government is urged to make specific provisions in the annual trade plan with U.S.S.R. for export of books instead of a combined provision of Rs. 1.5 crores for export of books, gramophone records etc.

Books Panel's *fait accompli* on its earlier efforts : Individual Sales Tour

Thirteen individual sales teams from Books & Publications Panel have been approved for 1982-83 by the Government for effective promotional work. The panel will try to obtain sanction for a few more proposals under current year's budget. HDA sale has been increased from 25 per cent to 60 per cent.

Trade Delegation

The Ministry has approved the following tour project proposals under ITC/SIDA assistance programme for 1982-83.

Market Orientation Trade tour to U.K., U.S.A., Canada and Mexico for 22 days.

Market Orientation Trade tour to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji for 17 days.

Participation at International Book Fairs

Official support for nine international book fairs at Singapore, Frankfurt, Yugoslavia, Manila, Jakarta, Bahrain, Cairo, Melbourne and A.B.A. in addition to the Festival of India at London.

Sample Copies

The government has, at the Books Panel's request, raised the value limit of sample copies to prospective customers abroad from Rs. 5000 to Rs. 10,000, and upto 2 per per cent of the export earnings if they exceed Rs. 10 lakhs.

Effective lobbying and follow-up regarding other issues are continued to be carried on by the Books Panel.

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BOOK REVIEWS

RELIGION AND THE REVOLT OF THE OPPRESSED, M.M. Thomas, Indian Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 1981, Rs. 15.00

Dr. M.M. Thomas is very well known both here and abroad as an eminent Indian theologian and ethicist. He has made a tremendous contribution to the theological and social thinking of the church in India. In his own critical and comprehensive way he has been able to reflect and evaluate the Various statements of the world council of churches, the Vatican and the Papal Encyclicals on the issue of technology and on the problem of poverty and the oppressed.

These lectures are useful particularly coming from a person who himself was involved in theeconomical movements for the last so many years. With the publication of this issue we can share these lectures with the wider public all over the world.

SLAVERY IN THE TAMIL COUNTRY: A HISTORICAL OVERVIEW, Dr. S. Manickam, The Christian Literature Society, 1982, Rs. 15.00

The author has chosen a very rare and effective topic. This attempt is made by the author to focus one of the important socio-economic institutions viz., slavery, which has received scant attention from historians of modern Tamil Nadu. Author's way of approach and presentation are not merely academic but also appeal to the emotions and feelings of the reader. He has taken pains to glean material from a variety of sources, and as a student of history the author has ably dealt with the different aspects of the subject.

The main purpose of this book is to arouse the interest of general readers in and invite the attention of scholars and students engaged in historical research to an important socio-economic phenomenon such as slavery.

GEORGI DIMITROV—SELECTED SPEECHES AND WRITINGS, People's Publishing House (P) Ltd, 1982, Rs. 20.00

This collection of speeches and other documents of comrade Georgi Dimitrov is a tribute on the occasion of his birth centenary.

The life and work of Georgi Dimitrov, the great son of Bulgaria, is indeed inseparable from the class struggle of the Bulgarian proletariat and the international working class movement from the struggle for the victory of communism throughout the world. Comrade Dimitrov is one of the tallest leaders of the world communist movement. He joined the Bulgarian Social Democratic Workers' Party founded by Dimiter Blagoev at the age of 20. At 27, in 1909, he was elected to its Central Committee, on which he remained to the end of his life.

As a leader of General Trade Union League of Bulgaria he was a consistent fighter against ideological distortion which propagated neutrality of the trade unions to keep them dissociated from the overall struggle of the working class for socialism.

Dimitrov worked as ths secretary of the West European Bureau of Comintern when fascism was raising its ugly head. He made great theoretical and practical contributions towards searching for new forms of combining the fight of the working class against fascism and for democracy with its fight for socialism. His role in the historic Leipzig fire trial became the focus of worldwide struggle against fascism.

The main feature of Georgi Dimitrov's manifold activities, the very essence of his life was proletarian internationalism, the fight for the unity of the working class and for unity of communist and workers' parties.

THE MILTON-HALL CONTROVERSY ON EPISCOPACY Rev. C.M. George Koruthu, Milind Publications Pvt. Ltd, 1981, Rs. 40.00

The author makes a well-focused scrutiny of the anti-prelatical pamphlets in order to bring out the main issues involved against the background of the times. The study provides a dramatic unfolding of one of the critical stages in the history of the Anglican Church. Himself in holy orders, Fr. George has gone deep into the theological aspects of the dispute, deeper indeed than most Indian scholars could have done.

Another focus not only on Milton but also on Bishop Hall and indeed on other participants in controversy too.

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PROGRESS FOR A SMALL PLANET—DEVELOPMENT OF MANKIND AND SOCIETY, Barbara Ward, Heritage Publishers, 1982, Rs. 95.00

Progress for a small planet shows how new attitudes backed by new, more conserving technologies can take us beyond the environmental crises and global tensions. The book contains 25 chapters which are divided into three parts.

Part One describes new technologies for recycling wastes and resources of energy, for 'getting more from less'—and how a more careful use of resources and new approaches to employment can take us beyond increasing alienation at work and a growing dole queue.

Part Two is a strategy to meet the most basic needs of the world's poor.

Part Three shows the vast inequalities between rich and poor nations can be reduced to benefit both in a masterful survey of possible policies. Barbara Ward outlines the planetary bargain between the world's nations that would guarantee every human being the right to freedom from poverty and would keep our shared biosphere in good working order.

A RULE OF PROPERTY FOR BENGAL—AN ESSAY ON THE IDEA OF THE PERMANENT SETTLEMENT (2nd edition), Ranjit Guha, Orient Longman Ltd, 1982, Rs. 55.00

A Rule of Property for Bengal focuses on the 'most disputed step in the agrarian field ever taken in India under British rule'. Author discusses the intellectual origins of the permanent settlement of land revenue in Bengal, commonly referred to as the Zamindari system. The permanent settlement, a major departure from accepted British revenue policy in India, was a turning point in Indian economic and social history.

The book considers the controversial issue of imposing European ideas on a colonial society, arguing that British administrators such as Philip Francis and Lord Cornwallis were influenced to a much greater extent by the French physiocrats than by the exigencies of the Indian conditions. It goes on to elaborate the antecedents of the Permanent Settlement in the contemporary European works of Alexander Dew, Hency Putulle and Philip Francis.

The book also discusses the conflict in outlook and ideas between Philip Francis, a man with physiocratic beliefs who was also new to India, and Warren Hastings, an experienced administrator who had faced the problems of 'settling' and 'forming' land revenue. The stake in the battle of ideas was the future economic development of India on the lives of western-style capitalism. The main purpose of the author for writing this book is to present a thought-provoking analysis on how an alien, bourgeois form of knowledge was imposed on a semi-feudal society, the consequences of which are still with us today. *According to Professor Daniel Thorner* this essay is truly a pioneering work in the intellectual origins of a bold innovation in imperial policy.

HISTORY OF INDIGENOUS EDUCATION IN THE PUNJAB SINCE ANNEXATION AND IN 1882, G.W. Leitner, Amar Prakashan, 1982, Rs. 300.00

The author has given the account without extenuation or malice, of the history of contact of the forms of Europeans with one of Asiatic civilization, how, in spite of the best intentions, the most public spirited officers and the generous government that had the benefit of the traditions of the other provinces, the true education of the Punjab was crippled, checked and was destroyed, how opportunities for its healthy revival and development were either neglected or perverted and how, far beyond the blame attaching to individuals, the system convicted of worse than official failure, whether it was possible to rouse renewed exertion. On behalf of its own education the most loyal population that had ever been disappointed, is a question with the author has attempted to answer.

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At the end the author has added specimens of the commercial cypher in use in North of India, if not in the other parts of the country in order to show that they do afford a basis for a general contractor for the purpose of elementary education or that at any rate, they do not so perceptibly vary from place to place.

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How National Language Problem is Solved in the U.S.S.R.

KUCHKAR KHANAZAROV

The USSR, as well as many other countries of the world, is a multilingual state. Its peoples speak nearly 130 ethnic languages. Nevertheless, there are no language antagonisms or conflicts in the Soviet Union. How was this complex problem solved? The answer to this can be found in the book by Prof. Kuchkar Khanazarov*, Director of the Uzbek Institute of Philosophy and Law.

The author stresses that the language problem was always very acute in pre-revolutionary Russia. The tsarist government did not recognize the equality of nations and of their languages. The use of the Russian language was proclaimed compulsory in all spheres of Russia's state and social life, and it was imposed upon all the nations inhabiting the country. It is only natural that such encroachment upon the rights of national minorities could not but give rise to conflicts; as a result, this policy hampered the development of the national languages. Quite a number of nations did not have the elementary conditions necessary for the emergence of a written language. The fact is borne out by figures cited in Khanazarov's book: only 13, out of 130 languages in tsarist Russia, had their own written languages.

The Soviet government, which came to power in 1917, renounced the policy of the old regime aimed at eliminating national distinctions and impeding the development of national languages. The author refers to numerous documents issued by the Soviet government. One of them, such as "The Declaration of Rights of the Peoples of Russia" says that the activity of the government shall be based on the equality and sovereignty of the peoples of Russia, and on a free development of the national minorities inhabiting the territory of Russia.

Khanazarov shows how the Soviet government consistently reinforced its declarations by concrete actions. All the national languages were raised to the level of state languages. Numerous schools were built all over the country in which the children were taught in their national languages. Everyone was free to choose a national or a Russian school to send their children to.

Vladimir I. Lenin, founder of our state, said that if all languages were equal and if there were enough schools with instruction carried out in every nation's own language, the working people of different nationalities would themselves soon come to see which language was more convenient and expedient for them to speak. Lenin's words have been confirmed by life, stresses Khanazarov. Any citizen of the Soviet Union extensively uses his own ethnic language and at the same time tries to master Russian. Why Russian? Even in pre-revoluntionary Russia most of the population spoke Russian, because as is known, economic considerations cause the nations inhabiting one country to speak the language of the majority.

The author of the book goes on to say that the general tendency is that the percentage of people who regard their national language as their native tongue is gradually going down due to their voluntary transition to other languages, Russian being the first among them. Russian is gradually becoming a second native language for all the peoples of the USSR, it is increasingly

*The book is to be published in Russian by the Moscow Politizdat Publishers this year.

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getting to be part and parcel of the Soviet people's life. Many novels and stories by representatives of non-Russian nationalities of the USSR, are now written in Russian. Among the authors who write in Russian. are Chinghiz Aitmatov, a Kirghiz, Georgy Gulia, an Abkhazian, Yuri Rytkheu, a Chukchi, and others.

But isn't the tendency to master and use Russian detrimental to the development of ethnic languages? The author cites a lot of data showing that the proliferation of Russian on the territory of the USSR does not at all impede the development of ethnic languages. It is proved, among other things, by the fact that not a single national language in the country has turned into a dead language, has gone out of use in the years of Soviet power. Moreover, our national languages have developed even further. It is, in the first place, evidenced by the emergence of written languages for all the nations that did not have them before. In the years of Soviet power tremendous research has been carried out to study the national languages and ways of developing them. A great number of linguistic research centres are operating in the country. Owing to their work there are no uninvestigated languages left in the Soviet Union; numerous grammars have been written, as well as reference-books for their study; a vast number of bilingual dictionaries (national-Russian and Russian-national) have been published. The author points out that at present 99.6 per cent of the USSR's population have written languages of their own. Only very small national groups that number from 150 to 2,000 people did not deem it necessary to evolve their written languages.

The author furnishes some other interesting figures which testify to the development of national languages: 67 languages are used for broadcasting and 42, for theatre performances.

The conclusion that can be made from Khanazarov's book is that the Soviet Union has found an optimum way of solving the national language problem. It is a free development of national languages on the basis of their equality.

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Dr. Prasad is presently Head of the Department of Economics in Patna University, and is the author of our best selling book, 'Problems of Economic Development in the Third World' with special reference to India.

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Vol. No. XXVII No. II
November 1982

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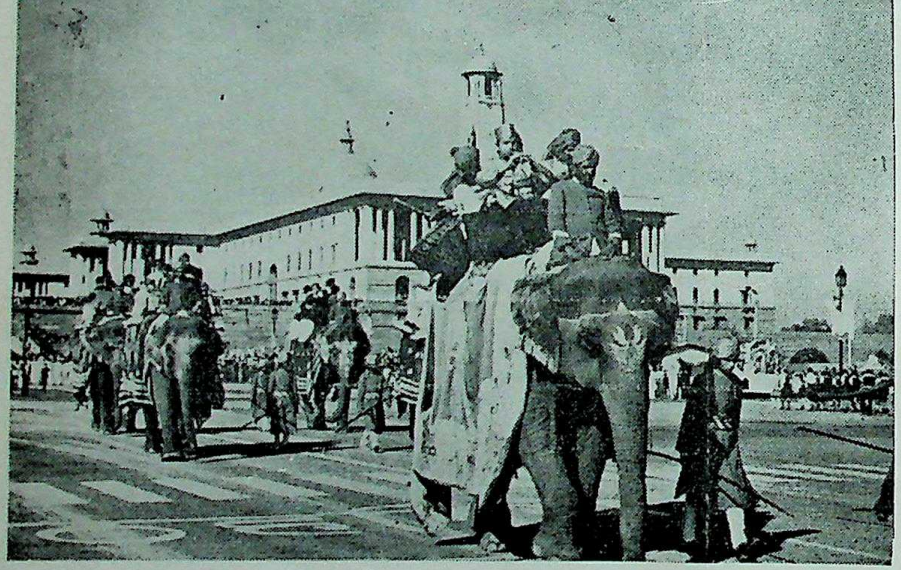

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INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY

Book Production and Distribution Journal

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Monthly Listing Editor
KRISHAN GOPAL

INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY
is published monthly by Sterling Publishers Pvt Ltd., L-10, Green Park Extension, New Delhi 110016.

Advertising & Subscription Agents

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Subscription Rates

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One Year	50.00	12.50	7.00
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Three Years	120.00	30.00	15.00

Printed and published by Shri O.P. Ghai at Sterling Printers, L-11, Green Park Ext., New Delhi-110016.

Vol. XXVII No. 2 *November 1982*

CONTENTS

INDO-FRENCH BOOK EXCHANGES—A BEGINNING 5
—Abul Hasan

INAUGURATION OF FRENCH BOOK CENTRE IN DELHI 10

READ YOUR WAY UP THE SINGAPORE STYLE 11
—Vijay C. Katkar

PUBLISHING HIGHER EDUCATIONAL JOURNALS 15
—Taj Rawat

GABRIEL GARCIA MARQUEZ— A Profile 17

THE BOOK PUBLISHING INDUSTRY IN SRI LANKA FROM 1965 to 1980 19

FEDERATION NEWS 21

NEWS & EVENTS 22

MONTHLY LISTING 25

BOOK REVIEWS 37

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Indo-French Book Exchanges--A Beginning

*ABUL HASAN**

Item I-B 5 of the Cultural Exchange Programme between India and France for the year 1982-83 reads as follows:—

"Both sides will facilitate contacts and exchange of books/publications and information between national organisations of book publishers in either country and for this purpose, both sides may exchange visits of a delegation of 2-3 publishers from each country for a period up to one month for discussions, visits and exchange of experience".

In implementation of this item a delegation of Indian publishers consisting of the following visited France between 13th and 22nd October, 1982:—

Shri Vishwanath,
Chairman,
Vision Books Pvt. Ltd.,
New Delhi.
Representative—Federation of Indian Publishers.

Shri Sunil Sachdev,
Director,
M/s Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd.,
New Delhi.

Representative—Federation of Publishers and Booksellers Associations in India.

Shri Abul Hasan,
Special Officer (Book Promotion),
Ministry of Education & Culture,
New Delhi.
Government of India,
Liaison Officer.

Growing Use of English

While France is basically a mono-lingual country and French is the main language of use in administration, commerce and education, English occupies an important place in the country particularly after the Second World War. Over the last two decades France has been playing a leading role in international trade and in the development of new technologies resulting in a new awareness and acceptance of the role of English as an important international link language. There seems to be an expanding market for English language books in France.

The main reason why the demand for English books will continue to grow in France is the desire of an increasing number of French people to learn English. The knowledge of English is now regarded as essential in industry and commerce as well as in education and administration. Many French companies are devoting a proportion of their turnover to further education programmes for their employees and the overwhelming demand is for English courses. In those areas where advance research work can gain international distribution only in English, French scholars are writing papers in English. They are now beginning to perceive the English language as a means by which their work can become known to the world outside France or French-speaking countries. The French scholars are showing greater interest in obtaining English books and now seem to be much less restricted by linguistic or cultural barriers.

Although there is very little English taught in pre-primary and primary schools in France, a foreign language becomes obligatory in the secondary school system as well as at the university level. It is estimated that at the secondary school and higher education levels 80 to 90 per cent of the pupils opt for the study of English as a foreign language.

The Book Scene in France

The book publishing industry is well-organised in France. With an average production of 30,000 titles per year, France is among the six largest book producing countries of the world. Literary works occupy almost one-third of the total book production followed by juvenile literature and humanities. Literature also occupies the highest place both in the matter of translation from French into foreign languages and *vice-versa*. As far as print-runs are concerned, the highest number is that of encyclopaediae and dictionaries followed by literature and school books. The highest turnover of the French book trade is again accounted for by literature (about 25 per cent) followed by encyclopaediae, dictionaries and school books. As far as foreign trade in books is concerned the total value of books imported in 1978 into France other than books in French, was about $ 20 million, the UK and USA being the largest suppliers with about 25 per cent and 21 per cent of the share respectively. As far as India is concerned, the total value of exports of publications to France was Rs 2,82,751 and the value of imports from France was Rs 7,13,274 in 1979-80.

Delegation's Itinerary

Since this was the first visit of an Indian delegation of publishers to France, the objective of the visit

* Special Officer (Book Promotion), Department of Education, Ministry of Education & Culture, Government of India.

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was, as indicated under item I-B 5, to facilitate and exchange publications and information between the national organisations of book publishers. There was lot of information gap about the potential of one another's books that could be used in the other country. Apart from translating other's books in the language(s) of the user country for which there appears to be a maximum scope, possibilities were to be explored for the import and export of books in original languages, publication of co-editions of books and utilisation of printing capacity for the mutual benefit of both countries. The whole approach was to be broad-based and made with a national angle. Once the horizon was clear and areas of mutual collaboration identified, the individual publishers/booksellers could negotiate terms directly with their counterparts in the other country for specific titles.

The programmes of visit of the delegation was drawn up by the Ministry of External Relations of France (Director-General for Cultural, Scientific and Technical Relations). The delegation visited large and medium size publishers and also local booksellers. Besides, the concerned Ministries of the French Government, some professional organisations of the French book industry and non-commercial organisations were also visited.

Although most of the book publishing activities in France are concentrated in Paris it was considered desirable to make a visit to some provincial publishers also. Hence a day time visit was arranged to *Editions Privat* at Toulouse which is more than a small-size publishing and bookselling organisation in south of France.

Professional Associations

It may be worth mentioning some of the activities of the professional associations visited by the delegation. The most important professional associations of the book industry in France are—the *Cercle de La Librairie* and *Syndicat National de l'Edition*. The *Cercle* is stated to be France's great umbrella organisation run jointly by different professions of the book industry viz. publishers, booksellers, printers, paper manufacturers etc. It provides a number of essential services to its members and general public and produces bibliographical information like "Books in Print". It is a kind of National Book Development Council of France, though it is run entirely by the private sector.

A meeting of the delegation was fixed with the other body, viz. *Syndicat National de l'Edition* which is a professional association of French publishers. It represents 400 regular members who are large or medium-size publishers dealing with special fields of publishing like medical books, technical books, text books, children books etc. The *Syndicat* also advises 600 to 700 small publishers who are not its regular members. The *Syndicat* undertakes research on subjects related to the book trade and has a number of committees and councils on different aspects such as copyright, export promotion. It is also a member of the International Publishers Assotion.

Another professional association that was visited by the delegation was UDEF-Export (*Union D'Editours Francais Exportateurs*). About 100 medium and small size publishers specialising in social sciences, poetry, religion, sports etc. are members of this Union. The main activity of the Union is to help distributing the books of their members at home and abroad. As such the Union is interested in exporting French books to India.

There are several other big and small professional associations related to the French book industry e.g. Syndicates and Associations of libraries, booksellers, importers and exporters and those concerned with the French literature, documentation, public relations etc.

Whlie translation seems to be the main area of collaboration between India and France in the field of publishing, there are many other aspects which came to light during the visit of the Indian delegation, which also offer scope of bilateral collaboration viz. publicity, publishing and printing and import and export. All these aspects have been dealt with separately in the following paragraphs.

Publicity and Promotion

As pointed out earlier, there is a lot of information gap about the books produced in either country and therefore their potential for each other. There is a lot of scope of French books for the teaching of French language in India. Translation of French titles especially at the higher level may also be useful in not only scientific and technical disciplines but also in humanities and literature. A large number of periodicals in technical fields are being published in France mostly in French but also in English, some of which could be used in India with advantage.

As far as Indian books are concerned, there is obviously a good scope for our books on typically Indian or oriental subjects like culture, fine arts, religion, yoga etc. The French reader is also having a growing interest in our literature, and our outstanding fiction both in English and Indian languages could be translated into French. There is also a growing interest of French tourists in India and there is a dearth of tourist literature about India in France.

During the course of the visit of the delegation, besides specimen copies of some of our books a lot

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of publicity and information literature was distributed to the French book industry personnel. It included the latest annotated catalogue of Indian books 1979-81 published by the National Book Trust, the latest issue of the quarterly journal 'Recent Indian Books', and the folder 'Indian Books in a World Market'. The folder was also handed over to the Indian Embassy for being translated into French and published in the monthly journal brought out by the Indian Embassy. The French side also handed over to the Indian delegation lot of information material (mostly in French) concerning the activities of French publishers and select lists of titles published in France. There are many book trade journals and reference books published in France which provide latest information about the publishing activity in France.

There is need for extensive publicity of the book publishing activity of the other country on either side. As far as France is concerned a French Book Centre has been opened in New Delhi and will be inaugurated shortly on the occasion of the French President's visit to New Delhi. France also participates in the World Book Fairs being organised by the National Book Trust. Consideration may be given to the opening of an Indian book centre in Paris and organisation of special exhibitions of Indian books in France in collaboration with the Indian Embassy. The private sector on either side may also exchange catalogues, book trade journals and other reference material for one another's information.

Translation

Translation offers maximum scope for the publishers of the two countries. As far as Indian books are concerned, the French publishers have shown considerable interest in translating Indian books on fiction, modern literary works, apart from the traditional Indian subjects. One of the well known publishers of France, *Flammarion* are already doing translation of *Mahabharata* and are interested in translating Indian books on our culture, and civilization. Another publisher, *Seuil* wants to do a book on Nepal and is also interested in publishing informative literature for French tourists visiting India. There are many universities in France with Chairs relating to Indian studies who may want to use Indian books on current political and economic matters. Some publishers may like to publish bilingual dictionaries (French-Hindi and other Indian languages). Although the French readers have been rather traditional people who would like to move securely within the broad parameter of their own culture, there is an increasing desire to read the oriental literature on the abovementioned subjects specially if it is available in their own language.

So far as French books are concerned we can translate, with adaptation where necessary, French books for the higher level of education specially in scientific and technical fields and also reference books and encyclopaediae on special subjects for which France is well known. Our translation can either be in English or in Indian languages. Many French publishers are interested in reaching Asian and African markets through India, for apart from English in which our publishing is very strong, many of our languages are used in other countries e.g. Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Bengali etc. Translation rights for many French titles have already been granted to British publishers with whom the French publishers would like us to get in touch for reprinting those English translations in India.

Before the delegation left for France, an agreement had been reached between India and France to undertake translation of the classical and contemporary literature and works in Social Sciences, in one another's languages. Indeed there is a scheme being operated by the French Embassy in New Delhi under which a subsidy exists for the translation of French books into Indian languages. It is understood that the Ministry of Culture of France also provides subsidy for translation of French books. The National Art Centre of France is stated to provide assistance for the translation of foreign works in French language. Since these subsidy programmes are not well known, there is need for publicising widely the details of these schemes for the benefit of publishers on both sides.

Since Indo-French collaboration in publishing is a new endeavour, the Indian delegation felt that in addition to subsidy for translations it would be necessary to provide financial assistance towards the cost of production of books atleast in India. Subsidy on production is considered necessary atleast initially to break a new ground and to reduce the price to the Indian reader whose purchasing power is low. An important step in undertaking translations would be to identify the titles which are worthy of translation. Some of them may be commercially viable, while others may be desirable from cultural angle. The Indian Embassy in France, in an *Aide Memoire* sent to the French Ministry of Culture recently, has *inter-alia* included a small list of titles which could be translated into one another's language. This is a good beginning and the list could be expanded in consultation with knowledgeable people on both sides. For this purpose a working group may be set up on both sides to prepare the list of suitable titles and work out other details. Later, a joint group can meet to monitor the whole programme and review it

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from time to time.

Co-publishing and Printing

Almost all the books published in France are printed in France. However, a few of the French books relating to the learning of the French language are printed in India hrough *Alliance Francaise*. Since the cost of printing in France is very high French publishers are interested in collaboration with Indian publishers relating to co-editions of certain types of books in English which could be published by an Indian counterpart for local consumption as well as export to Asian and African countries. Indeed many French publishers are having co-publication arrangements with publishers in Britain and other countries. Among those which were visited by the delegation, *Hachette*, *Larcusse*, *Flammarion*, *Bordas* and *Maison des Sciences de l'Homme* were operating co-publication programmes with foreign publishers.

There is considerable scope for co-editions in illustrated books. French publishers are sufficiently strong in editorial matters but have bottle-necks with illustrated books which are rather expensive because outstanding illustrators are few and expensive. Children's books and books on nature and animals and encyclopaediae offer a good scope for co-publication with French publishers. Opportunities for co-publication also exist in the field of dictionaries and quality art books.

Since the printing cost in France is high, the French publishers may be attracted to have their books printed in India atleast for export to Asian and African markets. One leading French publisher, *Bordas* has shown interest in meeting high quality Indian printers who could handle their printing jobs.

Import and Export

At present the quantum of international book trade with France is very small. However, the value of international trade in books could be increased manifold if adequate publicity and promotion efforts are made to remove the information gap about the types of books being published in one another's country and to identify the buyers.

As regards the sale of Indian books in France, the maximum scope is for English language books. There is a strong book-buying tradition among French readers whose purchasing power is high enough to absorb foreign books including books from India. Incidentally the sale of books in France is subject to Value Added Tax (VAT) @ 7%. The most effective promotion of Indian books would be the one done in collaboration with a local bookseller. This could be done through special mailings or special exhibitions of Indian books. There is an important wholesaler of English books in Paris viz. *Nouveau Quartier Latin*, 78 Blvd Saint-Michel, 75006—Paris. They specialise in English books mostly paperbacks and children literature. Another important bookseller from our point of view is *L'Asiatheque*, 6 rue Christine, 75006—Paris, who specialise in books emanating from Asia. The delegation had an interesting discussion with the latter in regard to the sale and publicity of Indian books in Paris. This firm is willing to organise a special exhibition of Indian books in Paris and has even offered to provide free space for the purpose. The firm was strongly of the opinion that apart from display of Indian books there should be proper arrangements for the sale of Indian titles at this exhibition.

Apart from Paris, the provincial market accounts for only a small fraction of English books. Most of their demands are met by the distributors and wholesalers in Paris. Only one provincial firm was visited by the delegation which was a medium size publishing and bookselling organisation viz. *Privat* in Toulouse. Most of the books handled by the firm were in French, although the firm showed interest in Indian books also especially on psychology and sociology.

As far as the import of French books into India is concerned, there appears to be some demand of French books in Pondicherry as well as in those universities where French is taught as a foreign language. There is again a lot of ignorance about the availability and the nature of French books, which will be removed to some extent by the opening of the French Book Centre in New Delhi. Many of the French publishers wanted to know the addresses of the Indian wholesalers and booksellers who would be interested in importing French or English books from France e.g. *Hachette*, *Bordas*, *Hatier*. The possibility of re-exporting these books from India to South East Asia and South Asia could also be explored. The main export promotion agency for French books is UDEF-Export which also participates in the World Book Fairs organised by the National Book Trust.

Follow-up Action

The first ever visit of an official delegation of Indian publishers to France has brought out many points on which action can be initiated on both sides. A delegation of French publishers is due to visit India shortly under the same programme on a reciprocal basis. It is hoped that the delegation will pick up the thread and have further discussions and exchange of ideas and information with the Indian book industry and its professional associations. While a long-term programme may be drawn up in the light of the findings of the two delegations, some follow-up action which needs to be

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taken immediately is indicated below:

1. A vigorous promotion campaign for Indian books be organised to bring our potential to the notice of French publishers and readers. It would be economic and practical to plan the organisation of exhibition of Indian books in Paris immediately after the Frankfurt Book Fair of 1983 from where Indian books could be diverted to Paris for the purpose. The Indian Embassy in Paris may be requested to do the necessary spade-work viz. arranging a site for the exhibition, preparing cost estimates, doing necessary advance publicity and so on. Some of the Indian publishers/booksellers may accompany the book exhibition to sell books and negotiate deals at the time of the exhibition;

2. In addition to the above, the Indian Embassy in Paris may consider organising displays of selected Indian books in prominent places in Paris. e.g. universities, commercial and cultural centres and Indian tourist office;

3. Select lists of French and Indian publishers and booksellers be drawn up by the professional association of the book industry on both sides indicating the firms who would be interested in translating and selling one another's books;

4. Suitable titles on either sides be identified which could be undertaken for translation/adaptation for publication in the other country. The lists prepared by the Indian Embassy may be taken as the starting point in this regard and developed in consultation with knowledgeable people. For this purpose a working group consisting of the representatives of the book industry and academic and cultural institutions be set up on either side. Later on a joint group can be constituted to meet periodically to monitor the programme and review it from time to time;

5. The opening of the French Book Centre is a welcome step to bring suitable books to the notice of Indian reader. This effort may be supplemented by larger participation of French publishers in the World Book Fair at New Delhi and frequent visits of the French book industry personnel to India;

6. Information regarding the subsidy available for translation of foreign books in France and French books in Indian languages be disseminated widely so that the Indian book industry avails itself of it wherever appropriate. Considerations may also be given to making subsidy available for the production of those translations which may not be commercially viable but have cultural potential;

7. The Federation of Master Printers of India may draw up a schedule of rates at which they would be willing to undertake printing jobs from France and send it to professional publishers' organisations in France through the Indian Embassy in Paris; and

8. The professional associations of the book industry on either side may establish direct contacts and undertake collective publicity for their members by mailing their catalogues, publicity material and informative literature to the other side.

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Inauguration of French Book Centre in Delhi

Within the framework of the French President's visit to India from the 27th to 30th November 1982, two delegations of French Publishers have arrived in Delhi.

The official delegation comprises of the following publishers with the areas of their specialisation.

Mr A. Thiollier Asiatheque 6, Rue Christine 75006 Paris	Publications on Asia Archaeology, History Linguistics, Religion
Mr Suaudeau Editions Privat 14, Rue des Arts 31000 Toulouse	Archaeology, Ethnology Folklore, Geography, History Medicine, Philosophy, Psychology, Economics, Political Science

Another delegation of 10 publishers and other persons connected with the book trade have also arrived during the same period, in their private capacity.

Their brief particulars are given below :

Mr Michel FAVIER, Head of the Book Section at the Ministry of External Affairs

Miss E. FILIPPI, from the Ministry of External Affairs

Mr Bernard NICOLAIEFF, Counsellor in the Ministry of Foreign Trade

Mr Paul MONNET, Director of U.D.E.F-Export (Federation of French Publishers)

Mr Alain LEVY, Publisher from Editions Rene Baudouin (specialising in Arts and Crafts, Humour, Painting, Poetry, Religion, Erotica) and Bookseller.

Mrs S. SIEFFERT, Publisher, from Presses Orientalistes de France (specialists in Encyclopedias, Education, Ethnology, Folklore, Geography, Oriental studies, History, etc...)

Mr Jean-Pierre PINARDON, Publisher from Maisonneuve et Larose (specialising in Archaeology, Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, Ethnology, Architecture, History, Philosophy, Religion, Philosophy)

Mr Jean-Pierre VIVET, Editor of LIVRES-HEBDO, the most important book journal in France.

The two delegations will attend the inauguration of the FRENCH BOOK CENTER at A-3, New Defence Colony Shopping-cum-Office Complex. The Inauguration which will take place on the 29th November will be done by Her Excellency Madame MITTERRAND, the wife of the French President.

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Read Your Way up the Singapore Style*

VIJAY C KATKAR**

'Read your way up', this was a slogan aimed at the general public, especially younger children and their parents, at the 14th Festival of Book Fair held at Singapore from 4 to 12 September 1982. The event is an annual feature jointly organised by the National Book Development Council of Singapore and Singapore Book Publishers Association. This is one of the activities of NBDCS and SBPA in the field of book promotion that are going on in Singapore.

One of the main objectives of the NBDCS is to promote book-mindedness among the people at large. From this point of view, the Council organised a National Readership Survey and a Regional Seminar on the promotion of reading habit.

As a follow up action, the Council launched a National Reading Month from August 13 to September 12, 1982 which was called the most ambitious project of the Council by Mrs. Hedwig Anuar, the chairman of the Council. The National Reading Month was synchronised with the Singapore Festival of Books and Book Fair—1982. The theme of the National heading Month was, "Read with your child." It is remarkable that the campaign was supported by the National Trade Union Congress and was sponsored by the Singapore Labour Foundation.

The campaign was mainly aimed at the pre-schoolers. The Council feels that no one is too young to read and believes that a baby of eight months is old enough to be introduced to the world of books. During the campaign, leaflets on how to make reading enjoyable were distributed. The National Library compiled a list of 50 popular picture titles for the parents to identify and acquire suitable books for their children. The campaign was also focussed on teachers of pre-schoolers and staff of the National Trade Union Congress childcare centres. Teachers and staff are in a position to encourage young children to read. The Council organised a series of thirteen workshops for adults including parents, teachers and staff of the N.T.U.C. childcare centres. Each workshop was to consist of 25 participants to learn the technique of story-telling to the young. NTUC childcare centres are also expected to launch NTUC Parent Education Home Reading Project. The project would be of more than six months and aims at educating parents on the importance of reading to, and with their children at home.

Other organisations are supporting the campaign for the promotion of reading habit among other age groups. The Ministry of Education was to encourage all schools and junior colleges to hold book-promotion activities. National University of Singapore was given the task of organising programmes also for undergraduates. The National Library was categorising light fiction books and launched a project 'Read a book a day." Other organisations like Library Association of Singapore and Singapore Broadcasting Corporation were also reported to be associated with the campaign.

Some experts were invited from Britain and Japan to conduct workshops/courses. Other activities were story-telling, book related film shows, word games, reading games, poetry reading and writing sessions, play reading, dramatisation charades, puppet shows, public talks on book/authors, essay writing competition, etc. and a list of activities was prepared by the Council with an appeal to all professional and civic organisations to support the National Reading Month.

Mrs Anuar, the chairman of NBDCS, revealed some interesting observations with regard to some of the programmes. She mentioned, "The response of the parents to the workshop has been most heartening. They have been enthusiastic, highly motivated, almost anxiously eager to learn how to read and tell stories to their children. They have been

*The views expressed in this article are the personal views of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Government of India.

**Export Promotion Officer, Department of Education, Ministry of Education & Culture, Government of India.

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introduced to the range of good children's books of which they were previously unaware. They have experienced the joy of sharing a story with their child. They overcome their shyness for approaching a teacher or children's librarian for advice on their children's reading. Already some of them are coming back to the library with their children for more books to read together at home." She feels that this trend will grow as more workshops were being conducted and more parents get the message and develop the habit of reading and telling a story to their children every day.

Apart from the Regional Seminar on promotion of the Reading Habit and the National Reading Month, Seminar on the Challenges Facing Book Publishers in the Eighties (in Mandarin) and Asian Conference of Editors were organised jointly by the Council and SBPA. There were at least a dozen other book promotion activities by NBDCS either independently or in co-ordination with other organisations.

On the occasion of the opening of the 14th Festival of Books and Book Fair, the Council also presented book awards for works by Singaporeans published between 1980 and 1981 in the fields of fiction, non-fiction, poetry and children's books. Some of the best works of the local book designers and illustrators were also on display during the fair at the function room of the World Trade Centre.

Dr Ahmed Matter AG Minister for Social Affairs, pointed out in his inaugural speech at the opening of the Festival of Books and Book Fair, "The path up the reading ladder must be continued after one mastered the basic reading skills. In many countries adult new literates have lapsed into illiteracy because they did not have the right kind of reading material available. We must ensure that this does not happen in Singapore." The NBDCS and other educational organisations are certainly taking care of this though illiteracy is not more than ten per cent in Singapore. This is more relevant in the developing countries like India.

In India, National Book Trust (NBT), an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Education and Culture, has been established in 1957. One of the aims of the NBT is to create book-mindedness among the people. Obviously India's need is more acute than that of Singapore in the field of books and the promotion of reading habit. The National Book Trust should organise such creative activities. 1982, Silver Jubilee Year of the Trust, offers excellent opportunity for the Trust to launch a National Reading Month or allied activities. Organising a few of book exhibitions or occasionally a workshop or an essay competition does not seem adequate enough for such a vast country.

Book Fair

World Trade Centre is a prominent place in Singapore where important trade fairs are organised throughout the year. The Festival of Books and Book Fair is also organised in the premises of the same building. Though the size of the fair is not very large, the publishers of the Republic of China (Taiwan), Indonesia, India, Korea, Thailand and Philippines are participating regularly and therefore, it is a unique event for the publishers, book exporters, buyers, and the other organisations dealing with the educational aids. However, this year for the first time the publishers of USA, New Zealand, and Denmark also participated in the fair. It had 261 stands taken by 84 exhibitors. These figures do not indicate the number of the publishers/dealers who have visited the fair for their business deals without taking any stand. The fair has no entrance fee and it was estimated by the fair authorities that about 3,28,000 people visited the fair during 9 days. Cash sale of books worth Singapore $920,000.00 was made.

India is participating in the fair since 1973 and gradually the number of Indian participants is also growing. We are exporting text books on Engineering, Science, Management, Planning, Books on Art and Culture, Religion, Philosophy, Yoga etc. to Singapore. There seems to be a good demand for the literature of Rabindra Nath Tagore, Indian literature (particularly Indian Poetry), Indian cookery, and books on South East Asia. This year CBT also participated in the fair and it was proved that much more demand can be created for the books of children's interest. Imports of Indian books in Singapore for the period from January to December 1981 was as under:— (*)

1. Text books	S$	1,141,000.00
2. Journals & other periodicals	S$	143,000.00
3. Other printed books & booklets	S$	347,000.00
Total	S$	1,631,000.00
Approx	Rs	78,288,800.00

However, the books and printed matter imported by Singapore during the same period is worth S$ 66,088,000.00. (*) This shows the potentiality of Singapore book market. The main source of books for Singapore is the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. Being comparatively low in prices, the demand for Indian books can be increased by raising the production standard and sustained export efforts. One important point must

(*) *Source* : Singapore Trade Statistics Import and Export 1981.

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be borne in mind that the Singaporeans are very much quality conscious about books. The reason is obvious. The book industry of Singapore itself is highly advanced. Their books are very well printed, produced and equally well bound; moreover the prices are moderate. Blurred printing, substandard paper or loose binding irritates the Singaporeans. Therefore, another way of promoting Indian books in this market is co-publishing. This would raise the production standard and also reduce cost. Some of the publishing houses from the UK and the USA have taken steps in this direction and a few have already been brought out.

With a view to boost the export of Indian books in this market, we must open an Indian Book Centre in Singapore. To make the books popular, it is necessary that the books also must be available for ready purchase of the buyer. Such a centre will also cater to the needs of the other South-East Asian countries. The centre will publicise and promote the Indian books, will supply books when and where they are required. If it is not possible for the FPBAI and FIP to establish such a centre, the CAPEXIL can do it in collaboration with the Government for the promotion of Indian books in the region of South-East Asia. Dr Selvaratnam, Director, Regional Institute of Higher Education and Development and Mr S. Gopinathan, Ex-Chairman of NBDCS also emphasised this point. If we want to compete effectively with the books of the UK and the USA, this is one of the most essential steps.

Similarly, our latest annotated catalogues should be mailed to the National Library, Central Library of the National University of Singapore and other important organisations.

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Publishing Higher Educational Journals

TAJ RAWAT

Higher educational publishing in third world countries has been a main problem due to lack of sophisticated and modernised printing technology, which in developed countries is most advanced and highly scientific with high capacity and modernized equipment. The developing countries have produced very good authors and intellectuals but the major problem they face today is the lack of proper communication and publishing in a very modernized and sophisticated style which the authors and publishers from developed countries do not face today. Even then, they are producing excellent editions of academic journals with the collaboration of the world's well known publishing houses.

There should be a scholarly flow of educational publishing in the third world countries with academic and sophisticated writing and intellectual communication among the literateurs and authors of repute says P. Altbach, the well known educationist of Educational Foundation of the United States.

There are various newspapers, journals and magazines about educational planning and higher educational activities in India. But, do they fulfil the requirements of the scholars and students of the Indian universities? Or do they reflect the real prospects of Indian educational society? It is a matter of serious concern for our scholars and educationists in the Indian sub-continent. In some respects, Indian academicians and scholars have been successful in this mission to some extent but should we rely on a handful of journals, published in our country, though, there is a great need of such publishing on every subject in a country like ours.

Among the higher educational journals published in India are 'Journal of Higher Education' from University Grants Commission, a unique quarterly on academic and scholarly writings. 'Educational Quarterly' is also a blueprint in the field of educational planning published from the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs, mostly encouraging intelligent authors from various fields of education and culture. 'University News' published from Universities Association of India is also a blueprint for success for the research scholars. This fortnightly journal is very popular among the university teachers and students from whole of the country. The journal contains simple and juicy articles based on the educational planning and development in India, giving research and educational news and reviews in brief from all over the country, written by well known professors and academicians. Most of the articles contain genuine ideas and concrete suggestions on the educational planning and research work in India as well as abroad.

'Journal of Indian Education' mainly deals with current trends, educational practices and policies in school education. 'Indian Educational Review' is one of the top journals in the field of educational research in India with a balanced coverage. These journals are edited under the supervision of a noted scholar Dr R.P. Singh in National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), an educational institution for the propagation of educational planning and development in the country. Educational Review mainly deals with the higher educational research work and its evaluation and news and reviews about higher studies.

'Indian Literature', an excellent quarterly on literature is edited by a well known poet Keshav Malik from Sahitya Academy. For the last one decade India has made a tremendous progress in the field of art, culture, literature and several other human activities. Sangeet Natak Academy also produces a quarterly 'Sangeet Natak' and Lalit Kala Academy produces an art magazine on contemporary art, culture and artists of India.

'Alternatives', an academic journal on International affairs and international educational ideas with a genuine tilt of social change is edited by a prominent Gandhian and internationally known political scientist Dr Rajani Kothari. This journal gives news and views in the shape of essay and articles. 'Gandhi Marg' is also an academic journal on Gandhian ideas produced by Gandhi Peace Foundation, a reputed voluntary organisation for rural change in India. 'Design' is a journal on interior decoration, design and architectural engineering in India as well as abroad which mainly highlights the developments in the field of design in the Indian sub-continent after independence.

The journals published from the Indian Institute of Management and National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad are also of unique status but there is a great need to develop and popularise these publications through news and review media.

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'Indian Wild Life' mainly reflects about wild life in India, its present and future prospects with correct studies on forest life. 'The Chemical Times' the most popular weekly of Bombay's chemical industry is of its own kind of weekly which gives an account of various chemical and research work. Among the top travel journals 'Indramma', 'Bushika' 'Signature', 'Destination India', 'Swagatam', 'The India Magazine', are unique examples in the field of travel journalism in India. Particularly 'Bushika' is planning an international campaign to boost the tourism in the developing countries including India. It is also interesting to note that Design and Fashion Magazines have flooded the market. For example 'Inside Outside' a bimonthly edited by Mallika Sarabhai is an unique piece on interior decoration. 'Gentlemen Fashion' edited by Minaz; 'Forecast Fashion' by Poonam Mehrotra, are among the commercial journals to boost interior decoration and fashion image in India as well as abroad.

'Movie' and 'Take Two' are two film magazines which boast of high circulation and wide readership. Shobha Kilachand's 'Celebrity' is an unique example of its kind as this highlights intellectual image and some tit bits with prominent personalities all over the country.

'India Abroad' a weekly on international politics and mass communication is published by Gopal Raju from New York. This weekly is mainly dealing with the Indian intellectuals and persons residing abroad. 'Indian Overseas' published by S.K. Sital from Hongkong is a journal of unique charm which highlights the affairs on overseas Indian community. 'India Weekly' from Britain is also an excellent production of its kind which is considered among the best news weeklies from abroad. 'India Abroad' is a weekly of liberal ideas with the readership of more than one lac. 'Freedom First', edited by prominent poet and philosopher, Nissim Ezekiel and 'Imprint' is edited by a well known journalist and critic Arun Gandhi. The journal is based on Gandhian values and broad Indian culture. There is a community monthly 'Parsiana' edited and published by a young Parsi journalist Jehangir Patel, which is an excellent example of journalism in India. This journal reflects the ideas and views of the Parsi community in India as well as abroad. 'Himmat' was also based on Gandhian principles but now it is closed down due to some economic circumstances. 'Gandhi Marg' is a monthly journal on broad-based Gandhian and social values, which mainly highlights the views of those working in the field of spreading Gandhian revolution and truthful ideals all over the world.

The 'Canadian India Times' published from Ottawa is also a weekly reflecting the views and news on the Indian community residing in Canada. Some time before this weekly proved a landmark success in Canada but due to some unknown circumstances the publication has ceased sine die.

The 'Indian P.E.N.' is a bimonthly journal (now defunct) published by All India P.E.N. Association for the propagation of Indo-Anglican writing mass communication, human rights and restoring press freedom in Indian sub-continent. Journal of Indian Writing in English is also a genuine production of Indian authors which has been highlighting the problems and hardships of Indian writing in English. The Journal is edited by Dr G.S. Balarama Gupta without any personal benefit. This journal has been a remarkable success since it emerged from the press. The journal is surviving on subscriptions from some poets, philosophers and scholars of English language. 'Rajasthan Journal of English', 'Teachers Journal of English Studies', 'Skylark', 'Unilit', 'Minimax', 'Indian Verse' are among the journals of modern English poetry and English studies and 'Aligarh Journal of English Studies' have progressed in a distinguished way for the last four years. 'Manthan' a journal on Indian Art and culture has been of great importance to the scholars and intellectuals who are engaged in advanced and scholarly studies of Hindu philosophy in India as well as abroad, particularly about the broad ancient Indian historical and cultural values.

'Communicator' is a bimonthly journal on mass communication in India, published by the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, highlighting the Institute's educational and cultural activities regularly in a prolific style. 'Vidura' is a monthly journal published by the Press Institute of India rejuvenating intellectual, cultural and journalistic freedom in India which often highlights the activities of free press in India as well as abroad.

Today, we are on the forefront of political crisis and democratic change, we should be able to publish more and more academic journals in a more sophisticated way. I agree with Professor Altbach's views that there should be a free flow of intellectual publishing among the developing countries for the social, educational, political and cultural uplift of their people. Today, great need is being realised of scholarly publishing in the third world countries which can be fulfilled by voluntary effort of some educationists and academicians in the concerned fields.

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Gabriel Garcia Marguez—A Profile

Winner of this Year's Nobel Prize for Literature

There was envy at the success of his masterpiece, **One Hundred Years of Solitude,** *alarm over his left-wing politics, and a well-bred Colombian distaste at his colourful language.*

Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the novelist who was recently awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, is the Prodigal Son of Colombia.

The imaginations of millions of Colombians are now working overtime on the Prodigal Son's return, which is going to have a lot of style, charged emotions, tears, a touch of farce, and a sure element of the fantastical : just like a Garcia Marquez novel.

The scene will be played out at Bogota's International Airport. The flight from Mexico where he has lived for many years, will arrive. He and his wife, will be enveloped in hugs and kisses by the President and First Lady. Colombia's stirring national anthem will be played, the military will salute, and huge crowds will cheer.

The event may even be blessed by sunshine. December is one of the few months when the sun filters through Bogota's bleak and chilly skies, a good month for the return of a homesick exile, and it is at Christmas that "Gabo," or "Gabito" as he is affectionately known, says he will be back.

Relations with his homeland have not always been so warm. There was envy at the huge success of his masterpiece, **One Hundred Years of Solitude**, first published in 1967; alarm over his left-wing politics and his friendship with Fidel Castro; and a well-bred Colombian distaste at his colourful language.

Garcia Marquez was born in 1928, in Aracataca, a small coastal town that owed its tenuous hold on prosperity to the nearby banana plantations. It was a remote sort of place. "There was a constant need for diversion," he says. "Jugglers, magicians and fire-eaters arrived and many things happened. The memory I have is of a hot, dusty and violent town. The weekends were a permanent fiesta when we virtually locked ourselves in the house. On Mondays there were corpses and wounded people lying in the streets."

Later Aracataca was transformed in Garcia Marquez's fiction into Macondo, the setting for **One Hundred Years of Solitude**. He left when he was only eight, on a scholarship to a boarding school near Bogota. "It was like a death because I lost my town, my people and my family —my way of acting, my culture which belonged to the Caribbean. I felt like a foreigner."

Everything in his books, he says, came from his experiences in Aracataca, living with his grandmother in a wooden house with a corrugated iron roof. It held a large and shifting population of family and visitors. "My grandfather had about 17 sons scattered all over the place whom he had fathered in the Civil War and they all kept coming home, riding mules and going to sleep in hammocks. We also kept open house to foreigners. The train arrived at 11 o'clock every morning and my grandmother always said : "We have to have meat and fish ready because we don't know who is going to come and what they would like."

The house was dominated by women, who kept the young boy quiet by warning him that if he moved at night, death or dead people would come out of every room. "When darkness fell. I would be terrified. It is something so deeply engraved in my mind that sometimes, when I am in hotels sleeping alone, I wake up in the middle of the night feeling that same terror which I felt as a child. I'm still afraid of the dark."

Small wonder that such a highly-charged childhood produced an imagination vivid in macabre and fantastic images, at once surreal and solidly down-to-earth. **One Hundred Years of Solitude** is the story of a family through six generations and

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a town from its founding to its apocalypse. It is a brilliant and crowded canvas that takes in the history of Colombia, the discovery of the Americas, and the domestic details of Garcia Marquez's own family; a novel that makes much of the current output of novelists writing in English seem thin and spineless.

Latin Americans were always enthusiastic about the book. Pablo Neruda, the Chilean poet who himself won the Nobel Prize, called it "perhaps the greatest revelation in the Spanish languages since the Don Quixote of Cervantes." English critics were less warm, at least to begin with, despite Garcia Marquez's own claim that the English translation of the book, by Gregory Rabassa, reads better than the Spanish original.

Critical opinions are warmer now. V.S. Pritchett regards Garcia Marquez as one of the world's great writers :

"The master weaver of the real and the conjectured. His descriptive power astounds at once. His prose is plain, exact, subtle and springly and easily leaps into the comical and exuberant."

For many years Garcia Marquez earned his living through journalism. As a young man he worked for a paper in Barranquilla, a steaming-hot port city, elements of which later reappeared in the fictional Macondo.

It is a city with a large black population, a vibrantly exciting atmosphere, and extreme poverty. He lived in a hotel frequented by prostitutes and learned that high local government officials"—their main clients—"did not come to make love but rather talk about themselves." It was a good base for work. "A writer needs a desert island in the morning and the big city at night. As William Faulkner once declared, the perfect home for a writer is a brothel—because in the morning hours it's always calm and in contrast at night there's always a party atmosphere."

Today his home is in an elegant suburb of Mexico City, though in Barcelona and briefly in London. He works in stifling heat, the thermostat deliberately set at a steaming 28°C, the tropical temperature in which he grew up and which he says he still needs to think.

Faulkner, Kafka and a grandfather who enchanted him by telling him fantastic tall stories—and from whom he seems to have inherited his own wild imagination—were the strongest literary influences.

He became a Socialist early in his youth : "I wish the world was Socialist and I think that sooner or later it will be." But he stresses that politics and literature must never be mixed, since the result is always bad literature. "The duty of a writer—the revolutionary duty if you like—is simply to write well."

President Mitterrand (a personal friend who is said to be obsessed by **One Hundred Years of Solitude**) sent a warm congratulatory telegram to Garcia Marquez, but it is doubtful if the present incumbent of the White House is as pleased. "That illiterate cowboy," as Garcia Marquez has called him, is "the most dangerous US President for Latin America in my lifetime, a man bent on keeping the region's military dictators firmly seated on their thrones of blood." It is perhaps not surprising that he has difficulty entering the US.

But some of his friends and literary colleagues, like Peruvian novelist Mario Vargas Llosa, have expressed concern that he is blind to repression in Cuba and only condems right-wing regimes. "Are there good torturers and bad torturers?" wonders Vargas Llosa.

However, Garcia Marquez has always backed his word with money. He founded and finances a Mexico-based human rights organisation for Latin America. For years he subsidised a left-wing weekly magazine in Bogota, despite the huge losses caused by an advertisers' boycott. Now he plans to plough most of the Nobel Prize money into a new Colombian daily newspaper to be launched early next year, a project which many Colombians believe shows that this time he is coming home for good.

His wife, Mercedes, a childhood sweetheart and mother of their two sons, is said to be eager to return, despite the threat to them from right-wing death squads and kidnap gangs.

The Nobel Prize, he swears, will not change him. "Never, in any circumstances have I forgotten that in the truth of my soul I am nothing more and nothing less than one of the 16 children of the Aracataca telegraph clerk."

His best book? On different occasions he has mentioned both **Nobody Writes to the Colonel**, a dry laconic novella, and his stylistic tour-de-force. **The Autumn of the Patriarch**. He is well satisfied with **One Hundred Years of Solitude**, but does not regard it as his best work. Now he is writing a love story ("not a tragic one, what we need now is happiness") and his memoirs.

Supersitition runs rife in Colombia's Caribbean region and in Garcia Marquez's novels, and some time ago he spoke of "the metaphisical terror" which he claimed gripped many great writers each year if they were touted for the Nobel because winners tend to survive no more than seven years. Now he jokes that he will attend the awards ceremony, not in evening dress but wearing a "guayabera," a uniquely Colombian word for the colourful tropical shirt favoured by men on the coast. It would be a characteristically exuberant gesture by a man who has never forgotten his roots.

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The Book Publishing Industry in Sri Lanka From 1965 to 1980

(A Study Commissioned by the National Book Council of Sri Lanka)

The National Book Development Council of Sri Lanka decided in February 1981 to initiate a study on the state of book publishing in the country from 1956 to 1980. This study was referred to the Marga Institute, but as reference material was available more conveniently at the National Bibliography Division of the National Library Services Board, the work was done there. At the very beginning, it was clear that 1956 was not a convenient point to start. The main reason for this difficulty was the absence of a bibliography prior to 1962. Information could have been collected from the Archives Department, but this was thought unnecessary as it was decided to confine the scope of the study to a statistical analysis of creative writing during this period, taking children's literature separately. This study is therefore more a statistical one than one going into details of content of publications, etc.

The National Bibliography of Sri Lanka commenced publishing under the Director of Archives only in 1962. It was therefore decided at the National Library Services Board to take the 15 year period (1965-1980) for the survey. Even here the year 1974 which marked the transfer of the compilation of the bibliography from the Department of Archives to the National Library Services Board has not been covered by the compilers. The following report therefore indicates the state of the publishing industry in relation to the topics selected from 1965 to 1980 (leaving out 1974); as revealed by the National Bibliography of Sri Lanka.

The National Book Development Council has stated that their main objective in this study is to discover through it the paucity or otherwise of children's books in particular, while assessing the production of books in general.

It was not possible to undertake any detailed study of all publications with regard to quality and contents with the staff available at the National Library Services Board. It is hoped that what follows and the statistical table annexed will enable the National Book Development Council to get an idea of the publishing industry in Sri Lanka in the area of the production of books for general reading.

The annexed statement shows the statistics of the total number of publications, for the years mentioned, publications which would fall within the category of creative writing and children's literature.

According to the figures, the average number of publications per year within the period mentioned was 1376.8. When these are further separated by the language media, the average number of titles per year in Sinhala, Tamil and English were 690.6; 316.3 and 369.6 respectively. The average for literary production and children's books (shown as totals and as titles per language media) were as follows : Total average of creative writing—196. Average number of titles in Sinhala—158.3, Tamil—23.8 and English—13.9. When averages were worked out for children's literature, the following dismal figures emerged: Average for all languages 29.9; Sinhala 26.9; Tamil 1.2; English 1.7. These averages are per year.

Whatever the averages may show, the exact position is that there have been very lean years within the period, viz. 1966, 1967, 1975, 1976. The lowest number of publications have appeared in the year 1976. This seems to indicate a particular tendency. Whenever there were severe restrictions of foreign exchange, imports, etc., there has been a definite reduction in the output of books and perhaps in production in other spheres too. When the then government allowed OGL imports this was immediately reflected in the increase of publications from 893 titles in 1966 to 1347 titles in 1968. Correspondingly in the years 1975 and 1976 when the most stringent controls on imports and foreign exchange expenditure were enforced a decline of the publication figures resulted though these immediately rose with the policy of liberalization in 1977. The number of publications in 1977 was almost double that of 1976 and this kept on increasing in the years 1978 and 1979 and appears to reflect the results of the open trade policy of the present government. 1979 shows the highest figures for the 15-year period with 2703 publications. It does not, of course, mean that in this year a larger number of literary works or children's books were produced—this occurred in 1980 where out of the total of 1858 publications creative literature accounts for 277 and children's books for 82.

Creative literature itself is a small percentage of the total number of publications. In 1965, out

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of 1168 publications only 86 could be included in this category and of these 86 titles 35 were children's books, 34 of which were in Sinhala and one in Tamil.

The averages for the 15 years keep to this pattern, especially for children's literature with Sinhala books averaging 29.9 books per year. Tamil 1.2 books per year and English 1.7 books per year. English language children's books average was slightly higher than Tamil, though there were no books in English published at all in 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1970, 1972 and 1978. No children's books in Tamil appeared in 1972, 1975, 1977 and 1979.

Among children's books in Sinhala, the highest number of books appeared in 1980, with 77 books, and the lowest in 1973 with 9 books. In Tamil, the highest number 6, appeared in 1968 and for English the highest in 1969, also 6 books.

The general picture presented by the statistics for the 15 years may be considered representative even of the earlier years. But taking the country's development as the background against which book publishing takes place, or taking publishing of books as an industry which develops or recedes along with the rest of the country's industries, depending upon the availability of capital, raw material, foreign exchange, etc., the situation during 1965-1980 should be better than for any preceding era. Educational levels were higher, the population was greater, the literacy rate greater and the importance of national languages higher than ever. Hence, publications in Sinhala and Tamil should have been greater. But if in this period, the production was so poor it is necessary to ask what was wrong with book publishing in the country ? Was this a reflection of widespread poverty which did not enable parents to buy books for children ? Why do people not buy reading materials in general ?

Although the statistics collected do not show a breakdown of all publications, a glance at the National Bibliography shows that most of the material in any year consisted of Government publications. Even with these, there have been some years where production has been significantly low. (In 1976 which is the lowest year, there were only 681 publications. The next lowest year was 1966 with 760. The best years have been 1979 with 2703, 1980 with 1858, 1972 with 1744 and 1978 with 1594.)

(The situation right through the period examined for children's publication must be considered unsatisfactory in relation to the large number of children who need reading materials other than the few school textbooks they are compelled to use for education and entertainment. Here the Sinhala publishing sector has been much more active than the Tamil. The percentages have been given earlier, but the actual figures over the years show wide fluctuation, varying from 77 in 1980 to 9 in 1973. A total of 20 children's books or more (in all media) was regularly maintained except in 1968 (18), 1972 (19), 1973 (12) and in this Sinhala books have predominated. Tamil children's books as stated earlier had an average of 1.2 books per year with the highest production in 1968 (6) followed by 1966 and 1971 with two books each. There have been no Tamil children's publications in 1972, 1975, 1977 and 1979, while the other years have one each. The best year for children's books for all languages was 1980 with 82 books of which 77 are in Sinhala, 1 in Tamil and the rest (4) in English. What did the Tamil children read ?)

Statistics of Book Publishing in Sri Lanka for the period 1965—1980

Number of books published during the year	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
	1168	760	893	1345	1290	1469	1489	1744	1534	937	681	1187	1594	2703	1858
Sinhala	865	296	506	656	637	750	758	925	708	484	341	571	719	1174	970
Tamil	158	184	112	319	324	305	307	341	403	230	159	339	405	686	473
English	145	280	275	370	329	414	424	478	423	223	181	277	470	843	415
Creative Writing	86	161	105	208	193	196	275	294	167	216	134	187	181	261	277
Sinhala	64	143	95	176	162	162	240	257	129	162	85	132	144	203	221
Tamil	20	15	08	25	26	29	19	20	33	37	27	37	06	22	33
English	02	03	02	06	05	05	16	17	09	17	22	18	31	36	23
Children's books	35	30	23	18	29	27	31	19	12	24	22	20	33	43	82
Sinhala	34	28	22	12	22	26	24	19	09	22	17	19	32	41	77
Tamil	01	02	01	06	01	01	02	—	01	—	01	—	01	—	01
English	—	—	—	—	06	—	05	—	02	02	04	01	—	02	04

Source : The National Bibliography 1965-73—Dept. of National Archives
1974-80—National Library Services Board

Statistics was collected by Mrs. Srimathi Gunasena and Mrs. A. Wijesinghe

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PURCHASE OF LIGHT READING MATERIAL FOR TROOPS.

The attention of all members is invited to Circular No. Fed/30/82, dated February 2, 1982, regarding purchase of books by the Ministry of Defence for Troops. As per laid procedure 10 (ten) copies of the list of books along with 4 copies of the Books are required to be sent bi-annually on 1st April and 1st October of each year. The lists as on 1st April, 1982 may please be sent to the Ministry of Defence, immediately, but not later than 15 August, 1982.

It is, however, requested that the guidelines prescribed by the Ministry of Defence should be strictly followed, and that ten copies of the list on a foolscap paper, as proforma, should be sent alongwith.

The books/lists, etc. and all correspondence on the subject may please be addressed to : Shri S. R. Sanger, Desk Officer, Ministry of Defence, Room No. 51, Block E, New Delhi-110011.

The FIP Membership Screening Committee had met on 22 October 1982 and considered applications of the following Publishers which had been received by them.

NEW MEMBERS OF FIP

The Names and Addresses of the new members of the Federation of Indian Publishers are given below.

Shiksha Bharati,
Madrasa Road,
Kashmere Gate,
Delhi-110006

Upper India Publishing
House Pvt. Ltd.,
Aminabad,
Lucknow-226018

Milind Publication Pvt. Ltd.,
6 E, Rani Jhansi Road,
New Delhi-110055

Hem Publishers Pvt. Ltd.,
C-123, Greater Kailash I,
New Delhi-110048

Nistandera Prakashan,
35, Kucha Karam Chand,
Jammu Tawi-180001 (J & K)

Satsahitya Prakashan,
205, Chawri Bazar,
Delhi-110006

Pratibha Pratishthan,
1685, Dakhni Rai Street,
Netaji Subhash Marg,
New Delhi-110002

Bright Careers Institiute,
Sagar Market, 1st Floor,
1525, Nai Sarak,
Delhi-110006

Shri A. K. Jetha
Proprietor
M/s Akbarali H. Jetha,
Opp. Byculla Goods Depot,
Dr Babasabad Ambedkar Road
Bombay-400027

Sri Deepak Kapur
Financial Controller
M/s Gowarsons Publishers (P) Ltd.,
Gulab Bhavan, Mayapuri,
New Delhi-110064

Shri R. K. Gupta
Pustak Mahal,
F-2/16 Ansari Road, Daryaganj,
New Delhi-110002

Shri Kewal Krishan
Neelam Publishers
4451, Nai Sarak,
Delhi-110006

Shri Kailash Khosla
Vikrant Press
32, DSIDC Industrial Complex,
Wazir Pur,
Delhi-110052

Shri A. C. Chawla
Harnam Publications,
4378/4-B, Ansari Road,
New Delhi-110002

Shri Yogendra Pal
Sahitya Prakashan
1458, Maliwara,
Delhi-110006

Shri B. C. Barua
Barua Agency
Publishers and Booksellers
Dighali Pukhari Park
Gauhati

Shri Ramesh Jain
Manohar Book Service
2, Ansari Road, Darya Ganj,
New Delhi-110002

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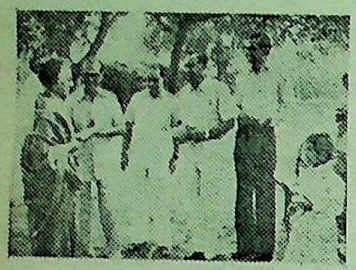
NEWS & EVENTS



Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, released *Non-Story of A Chief Secretary During Emergency Et Cetera* by Mohan Mukerji on October 20, 1982 at her residence. Seen in the photograph are Mrs Gandhi, Mr Mohan Mukerji former Chief Secretary to the Government of Rajasthan, Mr. T.N. Chaturvedi, Home Secretary, Government of India, Mr R.K. Paul, Publisher, Prof. Ramesh Arora and Sabeena.

BOOK PUBLISHING TO BE INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES

Secretary, Central Board of Direct Taxes of the Government of India, in his Circular No. 347 issued on file F. No. 166/4/81-11 (AI) on 7 July, 1982, addressed to all Commissioners of Income Tax has stated that Book Publishing Companies even though they may not be engaged in the printing of books, qualify to be treated as industrial companies for the purpose of section 104 as well as for the concessional taxes treatment given to industrial companies.

THE 20TH CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR WILL BE HELD IN BOLOGNA FROM 3RD TO 6TH MARCH 1983

The 20th Children's Book Fair will be held in Bologna from 3rd to 6th March, 1983, a month earlier than the traditional April appointment. This is due to technical reasons and is exceptional, being limited to 1983.

From 1984 onwards the Book Fair will once again take place, as usual, at the beginning of April.

A prominent feature of this edition of the Book Fair is that it is the twentieth, a milestone at which point a review can be made of the results achieved in all those twenty years of activity as well as of the prospects opening up for the future.

Within the compass of this celebration one foresees an inauguration with a press conference and the award of the Graphic Prize "Fiera di Bologna" and the "Critici in Erba" Prize.

ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF CHRISTIANS

London : There are 1,400 million Christians in 233 countries divided into 150 major ecclesiastical traditions, according to a vast new reference work, "World Christian Encyclopaedia", published by the Oxford University Press, £ 65, England.

Believed to be the most comprehensive work of its type, the 1,000-page book—subtitled "A Comparative Survey of Churches and Religions in the Modern World, A.D. 1900-2000"—took 12 years to compile. The editor is British-born Dr. David Barrett, research officer for the Church of the Province of Kenya and the Anglican Consultative Council in Nairobi.

The main part of the book consists of a religious analysis of every country, with detailed entries, supplemented by pictures, maps, historical data and biographical and bibliographical material. There is also an attempt to forecast statistically the growth and decline in different Christian communities by the end of the century.

The London newspaper "Daily Telegraph" says : "This is a unique, monumental reference book which will fascinate and inform for the next decade."

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AUSTRALIAN DOCTOR WINS COMMONWEALTH POETRY PRIZE

London : Peter Goldsworthy, a 31-year-old Australian doctor, is the winner of the 1982 Commonwealth poetry prize for his collection of verse, "Readings from Ecclesiastes".

The winner was announced in London and in Brisbane, where a Commonwealth Writers' Week was being held concurrently with the Commonwealth Games. Mr. Goldsworthy's book, published by Angus and Robertson, was chosen from 43 entries from 13 countries.

Poets who participated in the competition came from India, Australia, Bangladesh, Bermuda, Canada, Guyana, Jamaica, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, the Solomon Islands, Trinidad and Zimbabwe.

AUSTRALIAN BAGS BOOKER PRIZE

Australian writer Thomas Keneally was on Tuesday night awarded this year's £ 10,000 Booker prize, Britains most coveted award for fiction, for his novel "Schindler's Ark."

The book, according to the author and publisher, is 90 per cent fact. "Schindler's Ark" caused controversy when it was chosen as one of six books short-listed for the prize.

Professor John Carey, chairman of the judges, defended its choice : "There is no falsity in the book, but he has made a novel by structuring, placing and ordering. We discussed this question and in the end none of us thought it should be disqualified on the grounds of not being a novel."

The book tells the World War II story of a German industrialist, who saved over 1,000 Jews from the holocaust, taking them from concentration camps to work in his factory. It is based on interviews with survivors from Australia, Europe, and South America.

AWARDS FOR VED MEHTA

Noted India-born writer Ved Mehta is among 19 persons selected to share one of the premier American awards for talented people. Others include an Assyriologist and a West Asian affairs expert.

The 19 winners will receive from 24,000 dollars to 60,000 dollars annually for five years, from the John D. and Catherine Mac-Arthur Foundation.

ART BOOK DISTRIBUTION CENTRE

Art Book Centre (Ahmedabad-380036) glad to inform you that we have recently taken sole distributionship for the following title : Acharya Kanchansagarsurji : Shri Shatrunjay Giriraj Darshan in Sculpture and Architecture, Foreword by H.G. Shashtri, pp. xiv, 40, 15, 116, with 134 black and white plates, 1982, Rs 180.

The above book published by Aagamoddharak Granthamala and only *500* copies printed.

NEW CHAIRMAN OF RRMR LIBRARY

The Government of India has nominated Shri Mohun Mukerjee. IAS (Retd) as Chairman of the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation for a period of three years. He has assumed the office since March 1, 1982.

Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation has received annual contribution of Rs 76 lakhs from 14 States and Union Territories during the year 1981-82. For the same period assistance with Rs 32.98 lakhs approx. has been rendered to, by states and union territories.

AYURVEDA PHARMACOPEIA

It is proposed to prepare an Ayurveda pharmacopeia of single drugs which have been included in the official formulary. It will also prescribe the working standards for compound formulations including tests for identity, purity and quality so as to ensure uniformity of the finished

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formulations." The task has been entrusted by the Union Government to the reconstituted Ayurvedic Pharmacopeia Committee and its two sub-committees.

RAJA RAM MOHAN ROY LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The Foundation is sponsored by the Ministry of Education of the Government of India. It purchases books under its Central Selection Scheme, and under its matching assistance programme, various State Governments also select books every year. In response to our recent letter, the Foundation has informed as below :

"1. Under its Central Selection Scheme the Foundation normally accepts upto 5 titles of one Indian Publisher for one selection. There is no fixed date for submission of books. A publisher or his authorised representative (with letter of authorisation from the publisher) may submit one specimen copy of each of its 5 publications to the Foundation for consideration of selection. Normally the books should not be priced more than 100 rupees and no increase of price by way of stamping, pasting of slips or title pages etc. are accepted.'

"2. Under the matching assistance of the Foundation various State Governments also select books every year. Many of the States fix a last date for submission of books at their respective headquarters and issue announcements for submission of books under the scheme of the Foundation in certain newspapers. In this regard necessary information may by obtained from the concerned Conceners of State Library Planning Committees in various States etc".

The address of the Foundation is Raja Ram-Mohan Roy Library Foundation, 110, Jodhpur Park, Calcutta-700 068. For any details and clarification please write to them.

PROBLEMS OF INDIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT : National & Regional Dimensions

K.N. Prasad

1982 606pp Rs 200

This work is based on the author's wide experience of and research in India's Economic Development. He examines the causes of the sluggish growth of the nation's economy and points out in a very clear and incisive manner the reasons for the pockets of backwardness of some specific area. In three parts the book explores the national dimensions and the regional dimensions, and examines the cause for the backwardness of the Bihar region. In the last part, he outlines the need for an institutional approach to these problems.

Dr. Prasad is presently Head of the Department of Economics in Patna University, and is the author of our best selling book, 'Problems of Economic Development in the Third World' with special reference to India.

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The book contains 314 problems to be solved by the student. They are all provided with hints and answers. The 41 drawings that accompany the text serve to help the reader in analysing the theoretical material and problems.

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The book has been compiled by a group of college professors and teachers, authors of works in various branches of mathematical analysis (Valentina Yefimenko in calculation mathematics, the late Grigory Lunts in the complex-variable function theory, Sergei Frolov in variational calculus, the Abram Yanpolsky in differential calculus).

The book has been edited by the late Professor Boris Demidovich, Doctor of Physical and Mathematical Sciences. The problems and examples included in the book cover a general course in higher mathematics for engineering colleges.

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Apart from its main purpose the textbook should be of interest to expert mathematicians.

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BOOK REVIEWS

LEARNING FROM THE RURAL POOR—Shared Experiences of the Mobile Orientation and Training Team by Henery Volken Ajoy Kumar, Sara Kaithara, Indian Social Institute, 1982, Rs 15.00

The title of this book expresses best the essential characteristics of the four-year involvement of the Mobile Orientation and Training team. (MOTT) with the rural poor. It also analyses the distinctive methodology developed by MOTT to support the rural poor and oppressed in the discovery of their potential to be makers of their own future. In training animators MOTT enables them to develop the capacity to work with their people so as to deal creatively with the immediate problems of hunger, disease, indebtedness and agricultural productivity and, while doing this, to acquire increasingly, a critical understanding of the causes of their poverty that are rooted in the nature and functioning of society.

All those involved in any way in social action with the rural poor will find this book valuable for its insights, methodology and concrete experience of grassroots reality.

LAW & PROCEDURE OF PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION IN PUBLIC SERVICE, by K.P. Chakravarti, Vora Prakashan, 1981, Rs 80.00

The author is a brilliant scholar of the Calcutta University. A prizeman and winner of several literary awards, he has written a number of Law books, particularly in the field of public service and industrial law. His present work 'Law and Procedure of Prevention of Corruption in Publie Service' is the result of his deep and insightful study of the problem of corruption in public service. Corruption in any form is a social evil and is the deadliest enemy of any free and civilised society. Every thinking man will realise that it poses a serious problem to the society as a whole. It affects the administration very seriously where the public officials are self seeking and motivated more by personal gain than by national or public interest.

This is an outstanding work not only from the legal point of view, but also from the social standpoint. It is a thorough study of the problem as well as of its legal and social remedy. It covers every facet of the problem which is corroding national life. It is bound to be useful to all concerned with, public departments, police establishments, anti-corruption agencies and particularly, the legal profession. Every care has been taken to put appropriate heading and sub-heading to each of the topics, to enable the reader to locate conveniently the relevant matter. An exhaustive subject index is a special feature of the book. All the latest caselaws, reported and unreported, have been incorporated at the appropriate places in the book. A detailed "table of cases" has been appended for easy reference. Sufficient guidelines for the police as well as other departments have been provided to avoid lacuna in the prosecution of corruption cases.

A CLASSICAL DICTIONARY OF HINDU MYTHOLOGY AND RELIGION, GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY & LITERATURE by John Dowson, Rupa & Co., 1982, Rs 30.00

This classical dictionary of Hindu Mythology and Religion will fulfil the demand of the people who were waiting for it for a long time. Many years have gone into the preparation of this book and the main portion of this book consists of references to Hindu Mythology, Religion, Geography, History and Literature. This book is derived from many rare publications both by European and other scholars. The author has garnered the full harvest of Indian learning so that matter relating to Hindu Mythology, Religion, Geography, History and Literature can be easily expounded by a ready reference to this book.

The author has worked diligently and carefully, intelligently and painstakingly, and the result is a perfect reference book. The book would be more valuable and interesting were it well illustrated with plates and cuts. However, it is valuable and interesting to scholars interested in the specialised subjects. It is also a good companion for the lay reader, because it is written in the tradition of great European scholars of Indian literature like Max Muller, Weber, Rath and Lassen.

INDIAN CIVILIZATION: APPROACHES AND METHODS by M. Jha, The Indian Publications, 1982, Rs 45.00

The present book on Indian civilization deals with various approaches and methods applied to the study of Indian civilisation viz. Tribal, Rural, Urban and Textual. Various theoretical hypotheses and concepts,

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which are in vogue in Anthropology, have been reviewed and summarised systematically, which will be very useful to the students and scholars of social sciences. The theoretical interpretations and the contextual analysis of the recent researches in the field of Indian civilization have been excellently highlighted by the author.

THE HISTORY OF INDIA by J.C. Marshman, Lal Publishers, 1982, Rs 150.00

This book of Marshman is an abridgement of the History of India, which was originally in 3 volumes. The author has endeavoured to compress the substance of the three volumes into one, which will suffice to give the reader a view of the salient events of the different periods from 1400 B.C. to 1891 A.D.

Since the publication of the original work a new system of spelling Indian names designated in trans-literal has been introduced in India which in some cases differs so materially from that of the present abridgement and has been brought down to the close of the administration of the East India Company, and the annexation of the empire of India to the Crown of Great Britain, which forms one of the most important epochs in Indian history. In the present edition, important events from the death of Lord Mayo in 1872 to the close of the year 1891, have been chronicled by a member of the author's family which has hitherto been in vogue that it is not easy to identify the places or persons. For the convenience of the native student, the two forms of spelling are placed.

PLANNED DEVELOPMENT IN NEPAL : A STUDY, by Sriram Poudyal, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 60.00

Nepal since its inception in 1956 has been struggling hard to achieve rapid economic growth and improve the living conditions of the people through planned development. By now five periodic plans have been completed and the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85) is under implementation.

All the plans stressed on the need to raise growth rate, develop agriculture, industry, transport and social services and create a just and exploitationless society. But for lack of consolidated studies the achievements are not precisely known. In an effort to overcome this lacuna, this volume has been planned to examine the growth performance of the Nepalese economy measured in terms of GDP with particular emphasis on the development of agriculture and industry and reduction in the poverty, inequality and unemployment.

The author has raised several basic questions including why majority of the people are under severe hardships and are below the poverty line and why the country has been unable to develop despite the heavy inflow of foreign assistance. The author concludes that if decisive measures are not adopted within a few years, the crisis would be unavoidable.

INDIAN PHILOSOPHY: PAST & FUTURE by S.S. Rama Rao Pappu and R. Puligendla, Motilal Banarsidass, 1982, Rs 125.00

These kinds of books are primarily concerned with informing the philosophic community at home and abroad as to the types of problems occupying contemporary Indian Philosophers, their methods and orientation and their proposed solutions. The main aim of the present book is to obtain answers to the following questions—what is the relation between philosophical tradition and contemporary philosophical thinking in India ? where should Indian philosophy go from wherever it is now ?

The main purpose for selecting only Indian contributors is that philosophers in India and outside will have a chance to learn what Indian philosophers think of their own tradition, its encounter with modernity and its future. The essays in the book are placed under three main divisions. The tradition of Indian philosophy, modernity and the future of Indian philosophy. This collection of essays is thus an example of a philosophic activity in one of its best senses: becoming conscious of one's own tradition and a vision of the future.

INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE by K.R. Srinivas Iyengar & Prema Nandakumar, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1982, Rs 80.00

This book combines diverse elements like literary theory, linguistic and literary history and the history of ideas that are relevant to the study and enjoyment of literature. The book is divided into three parts. The first deals with backgrounds and approaches and probes the pervasive influence of the classical tradition and the Hebraic Christian inspiration. Part two is on the literary forms: the Epic, Drama (Tragedy and Comedy) prose, fiction, and the lyric and the Essay. Part three is on Form and Spirit and has chapters on classical and Romantic, "Diction Rhythm and Metre, and Style".

While the main emphasis is on the study of English literature (and literature in English) in terms of Western critical categories, there are also purposeful references to literature in other languages, classical and modern, and to the criteria enunciated in Indian treatises on poetics. The total aim of the book is simply to help the student and even the common reader to view litearture in its varied extrinsic forms and appropriate backgrounds, and also to see it in its true inwardness and universality.

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